The German Tribune

Hamburg, 9 October 1988
Twenty-seventh year - No. 1342 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858
DEPOSE A BRX X

New angles to Third World debt emerge at IMF meeting

Hannoversche Allgemeine

As expected, the international debt crisis was the most important single item on the agenda of the annual conference of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) in West Berlin, the biggest international conference in German post-war history.

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Mayor of West Berlin Eberhard Diepgen probably hoped the conference would convey the message that efforts are being stepped up to resolve the serious problem of international debt.

The problem was tackled from various angles. Some delegates sought ways of sustaining the network of international financial links. Others concentrated on guiding developing countries out of their external debt dilemma.

Plenty of criticism was levelled against the recommendations forwarded by government officials and international bankers.

There were some unusual divisions between the various factions. One was between the group of critics calling for a total debt write-off for the Third World and the developing countries which are supposed to benefit.

The Third World delegates felt that the industrialised countries should not be pressurised into such a accepting such a drastic move.

In their statement they did not even call for a remission of at least part of their debts.

Their spokesman, Brazil's Finance Minister Mailson Ferreira da Nóbrega, who prefers to negotiate a debt remission in a less emotionally charged atmosphere, said that this possibility had not even been discussed.

Bonn Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg, regarded the official declaration of the developing countries as confirmation of his own views.

Stoltenberg says that, with the exception of the poorest developing countries, writing off debts would only reduce the creditworthiness of the countries concerned.

This stance sets him apart from the opinion expressed by the head of the Deutsche Bank, Alfred Herrhausen, who feels that the lack of creditworthiness is already too serious and that debt remission is essential.

The senior director of the IMF, Michel Camdessus, heard Herrhausen's ideas sympathetically.

Herrhausen, however, was very much the odd man out in the German banking community, but as many of his at first controversial suggestions finally became established custom this did not bother him in the least.

Wolfgang Röller, chairman of the Federation of Germans Banks, rallied his members behind a line of defence and claimed that the discussion on the debt crisis had made headway.

The upward movement of debts has led to more movement in the strategy of containing the accompanying problems.

The momentum of discussions on this issue spread to the other issues taken up during the conference.

The head of the World Bank, Barber Conable, announced a programme against world poverty.

Chancellor Kohl repeatedly urged delegates to make environmental protection a key aspect of development policy.

These demands were also made by critics not attending the official conference in Berlin. There are many indications that the annual World Bank and IMF conference will bring relief. The Bonn government has announced that it will be writing off more debts for the poorest developing countries, subsidising interest payments, easing lending terms and providing more money for the protection of tropical forests. The World Bank announced details of its new environment programme and of plans to provide additional soft-term loans for the least developed countries.

Only recently, Brazil negotiated a new debt rescheduling agreement involving debt remission.

Argentina is to receive fresh World Bank funds. Japan plans to provide additional loans for the highly indebted middle-income countries.

The International Monetary Fund will reconsider a reform of the financing system.

Resolutions of a binding nature, however, remain few and far between.

The increase in the IMF's own funds had to be postponed due to the presidential election in the USA. The problems

Continued on page 6

IN THIS ISSUE



Mubarak in Bonn

Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak paid a brief visit to Bonn to discuss Middle East issues with the Bonn government. Here he is at a press conference with Chancellor Kohl (right). (Photo: Sven Simon)



Genscher in New York

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher (left) and Moscow Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze meet at the United Nations. See Agreement in Berlin page 2. (Photo: AP)

Honour for UN peacekeepers

Once again, the Nobel Committee has awarded its Peace Prize to an institution instead of to a person.

And, once again, tribute is paid to the efforts of many years rather than to any single recent achievement.

But the fact that this year's prize is being awarded to the UN peacekeeping forces is not a surprise.

The UN has been active lately: Secretary General Pérez de Cuéllar negotiated the truce in the Gulf war; he brought his influence to bear in the negotiations for a withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan; and he also deserves much of the credit for the progress towards a solution to the Angola conflict and to the question of Namibia's independence.

The Nobel Committee chose to acknowledge these achievements by awarding the prize to the soldiers of the forces as a whole.

Over the years these troops have tried to keep the peace in many crisis regions. They cannot establish peace itself; and can only keep the peace in areas where peace is wanted.

Nowadays, the UN troops reflect a desire for peace rather than its existence.

But many people pin their hopes for peace on this institution, and the Nobel Committee wants to strengthen this role.

At a time of growing detente between the superpowers, the UN and its peacekeeping forces find it easier to move out of the shadow of bloc rivalry.

Wherever the superpowers reduce their rivalry they pave the way for the mediating influence of the neutral UN.

Pérez makes clever use of this opportunity, and the growth in his own authority is accompanied by an increase in the peacekeeping role of the UN forces.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 30 September 1988)

WORLD AFFAIRS

Kohl prepares for visit to Soviet Union

Exaggerated expectations are being placed in Chancellor Kohl's four-day visit to Moscow.

Herr Kohl is increasingly emphatic in his warnings not to expect his meeting with Mr Gorbachov to mark the beginning of a new era in relations with the Soviet Union, and that is not even a tactical precaution by him.

There may be no lack of mutual protestations of goodwill and no doubt that Bonn has become a focal point of Soviet interest and attention in Europe.

Indirect but reliable sources indicate that the Federal Republic is seen in the Kremlin as being equal in importance to Washington.

That would account for signs that the Soviet Union might be inclined to expect too much of the Federal Republic without indicating to any serious extent what contribution it might be prepared to make toward a substantial improvement in relations.

Berlin is a case in point. Bonn need hardly be upset that Moscow has, to all intents and purposes, rejected the Western initiative on Berlin.

But a more flexible Soviet attitude is indispensable if relations between Bonn and Moscow are to progress.

The need to renegotiate the inclusion of West Berlin in successive bilateral agreements creates a constant climate of uncertainty.

Such hindrances may be due to grim Mr Gromyko's men still prevailing at the Foreign Ministry despite the new man at the helm, but this explanation, though possible, is doubtful.

Issues of such importance will be decided by Mr Shevardnadze, if not Mr Gorbachov himself.

Maybe the Kremlin leader has reserved the right to make the final decision, retaining it as a trump card to be played during the Chancellor's visit.

He might feel that Herr Kohl might be readier to make concessions on other issues in return for Soviet reassurances on the status of Berlin.

Mr Gorbachov, as has been clear since his summit meetings with President Reagan, is good for a surprise or two.

If nothing happens to ease the tension over Berlin, he will be either unwilling or unable (or unable as yet).

That would almost certainly have a detrimental effect on progress in German-Soviet relations.

When both sides insist that they are keen to make a success of the meeting the Chancellor must be able to return with tangible political results for all back home to see.

Words and the best of intentions may be sufficient until the Chancellor flies to Moscow. Once he arrives there something more substantial will be needed.

In Moscow the difficulties resulting from differences between systems are evidently underestimated.

In the Soviet Union a strictly planned economy is still run by an all-power bureaucracy despite perestroika. In the Germany, businessmen decided freely and as they see fit whether projects are an economic proposition.

The German chemical industry, for instance, is less enthusiastic about trade with the East than the Soviet Union expects it to be.

Other industries would also prefer not just to export plant and equipment. They would also like to feel that follow-up investment and project efficacy were assured.

They are less interested in profits if they stand to forfeit their reputation as a result of plant proving faulty due to mis-

Continued on page 3

Agreement on Berlin opens way for Bonn-Moscow deals

Foreign Ministers Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Edward Shevardnadze have solved in New York the problem of how to include Berlin in German-Soviet cooperation in two pending treaties.

This means Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl can work out who is to accompany him to Moscow. It means that Environment Minister Klaus Töpfer can now be included in the party.

The much-vaunted new chapter in German-Soviet relations opened in New York has paved the way for the signing of an environmental agreement that has long been shelved.

The terms agreed in New York also mean the end of a blockade of the first two-year programme forming part of the arts agreement between Bonn and Moscow.

That is a small step forward, but at least a step in the right direction, and stands out in contrast to the standstill in efforts by the Western Allies to reach agreement on improvements in and around Berlin.

President Reagan's Berlin initiative unfortunately raised issues of the city's status. Its consular representation abroad, the issue discussed between Bonn and Moscow, is less direct and more practical in scope.

Herr Genscher and Mr Shevardnadze did not draw up a new Berlin formula. They merely agreed in two specific instances to abide by the 1973 Frank-Falin formula ("in accordance with the Four-Power Agreement and in keeping with the procedures laid down").

The finishing touches have yet to be added, but it looks as though the solution reached for the main problem, that of project lists, could become standard practice.

Mention has already been made of a space research agreement and of cooperation in reactor safety.

Implementation of the Frank-Falin formula is a matter of technical details that are of fundamental importance: they have shelved treaties for years and stymied developments in bilateral ties.

The solution now agreed governs the system and arrangement of lists of institutions and participants in projects and events.

Moscow can say that Berlin is not represented by Bonn. What matters to Bonn is that in practice it will represent participants from Berlin.

After his meeting with Mr Shevardnadze Herr Genscher foresees across-the-board progress in bilateral ties.

What the Soviet Foreign Minister had to say about ethnic Germans who are Soviet citizens was encouraging.

Herr Genscher was cautious on the subject of cultural institutes, an issue that has long preoccupied Bonn.

He said he was working on the assumption that there would be declarations of intent about talks on the issue.

So it will be a long way before a German cultural institute can be opened in Moscow. Until recently the Soviet authorities did not permit any other countries, including East Bloc states, to present themselves to the Soviet public in this way.

Now the Soviet Union has reconsidered its refusal, as a matter of principle, to consider the idea (a refusal that played a part at the Helsinki review conference in Vienna). Warsaw Pact member-countries are likely to be given the first option.

Udo Bergdoll

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 29 September 1988)

Genscher takes chance to try and smooth links with Poland

The German Foreign Minister, Herr Genscher, and his Polish opposite number, Mr Olechowski, were using their stay in New York for the UN General Assembly to seek a way out of the impasse in relations between Bonn and Warsaw.

It won't be easy. Bilateral difficulties have been joined by the Polish government crisis, arguably better described as a Polish leadership crisis.

It in turn is the result of a deep-seated social and economic crisis.

When Herr Genscher visited Warsaw in January both sides referred to a breakthrough. They set up two working parties and seemed determined to seek solutions to humanitarian, financial and economic problems.

The Foreign Ministers agreed to meet again in mid-year to prepare for agreements on the basis of which Chancellor Kohl would visit the Polish capital in late autumn.

But nothing came of it. The commissions met twice and then adjourned. The Polish Foreign Minister's visit to Bonn, planned first for mid-year, then for mid-September, has been cancelled indefinitely.

Mention is no longer made of Chancellor Kohl visiting Warsaw this year.

There have been many reasons for this failure to make headway after what seemed to be such a promising start. The working parties, for instance, were bogged down in legal issues and engaged in fruitless debate on treatment of ethnic Germans with Polish citizenship.

Polish requests for financial accommodation by Bonn came as a shock to the Germans, so much so that German terms were not even offered.

Those that were offered — by German industrial executives who accompanied Premier Johannes Rau of North Rhine-Westphalia — they met with no Polish response.

In Bonn the Chancellor was scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Genscher and Finance Minister Stoltenberg more than once to discuss financial arrangements for Poland, but appointments were postponed and decisions have yet to be reached.

The Polish Foreign Ministry has gone on to the defensive, saying Polish requests are not demands, merely a description of what is needed to cope with the country's economic and financial crisis.

Specific arrangements have yet to be negotiated, as have Polish concessions in other sectors. Poland, Foreign Ministry officials in Warsaw say, is prepared to consider pragmatic solutions and sound compromises.

Mr Olechowski seems to be the right man for talks along these lines. Unlike his predecessor, Mr Orzechowski, he has a reputation for being more pro-Western in outlook, less dogmatic and more flexible, with the added advantage of knowing the Federal Republic of Germany well. He served as Polish ambassador in Bonn from 1983 to 1986.

He will have noted with displeasure that his country is now viewed with only marginal interest by German diplomats.

Bonn officials pride themselves on ties with Budapest, with Prague and even with East Berlin; they never as much as mention Warsaw.

Worse still, the Poles have a feeling they may be treated as an agenda item by the Germans and the Russians when Chancellor Kohl meets General Secretary Gorbachov in Moscow.

To rub salt into the wound, no such meeting has been arranged between Chancellor Kohl and General Jaruzelski.

It is highly doubtful whether the two Foreign Ministers will make much headway, still more so what headway they might make. In Bonn the working parties are said to have reached the end of their tether.

Talks must arguably be resumed at another, higher level. Bonn and Warsaw could appoint envoys with much more wide-ranging powers than were enjoyed by the civil servants on the working parties.

It is agreed in principle that financial assistance must be provided. The Bonn government can rely on full Opposition support. CDU foreign policy specialists gave the SPD's Horst Ehmke an attentive hearing as he asked what kind of Poland the Federal Republic would prefer.

Would it prefer a Poland that became the poorhouse of Europe, with unforeseeable consequences for Europe, or a Poland economically and politically in a position to speak with a voice of its own and to work alongside the Federal Republic in an overall European framework?

"We are convinced," he said, "that the Federal Republic must have a vital interest in an economically stable and independent Poland."

Dietrich Möller

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 25 September 1988)

The German Tribune

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 3-4 Hartwicusstrasse, D-2000 Hamburg 76, Tel.: 22 85 1, Telex: 02-14733.

Editor-in-chief: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English language sub-editor: Simon Burnett. — Distribution manager: Georgine Picone.

Published weekly with the exception of the second week in January, the second week in April, the third week in September and the third week in November.

Advertising rates list No. 16
Annual subscription DM 45

Printed by CW Niemeyer-Druck, Hameln

Distributed in the USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc., 540 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.
Postmaster: send change of address to The German Tribune % MASS MAILINGS.

Articles in THE GERMAN TRIBUNE are translated from the original text and published by agreement with leading newspapers in the Federal Republic of Germany.

In all correspondence please quote your subscription number which appears on the wrapper, between asterisks, above your address.

EUROPEAN SECURITY

West must not be seen as mere arbiter of Gorbachov proposal of the week

The writer of this article, Christian Democrat Volker Rühe, is deputy leader of the CDU/CSU in the Bonn Bundestag. He specialises in foreign affairs.

Conventional disarmament in Europe has emerged as the central point of the security debate.

The West has long been urging the East, especially the Soviet Union, to negotiate not only on nuclear arms limitation but also on scrapping the Warsaw Pact's invasion capability and redressing the conventional balance of power in Europe.

This Western urging has already accomplished major initial successes. The East has conceded for one that it is in a position of supremacy in some respects; it has also said that it is ready in principle to redress existing imbalances.

In its 16 July 1988 declaration on conventional arms control the Warsaw Pact laid down objectives specified in Nato's 2 March 1988 declaration on "The Way Forward."

The following points of contact can be inferred from the Warsaw Pact's reply:

- The Warsaw Pact has accepted that armed forces must serve only to prevent war and for purposes of self-defence
- Nato has repeatedly voiced doubts that the Warsaw Pact might have the potential, in overall size, deployment and degree of readiness of its armed forces, to launch a surprise attack.

In its 16 July declaration, the East conceded that the risk of a surprise attack in Europe exists and must accordingly be eliminated.

- In order to be able to reach an initial negotiating result soon it is important first to concentrate on weapons systems with which a surprise attack might most readily be launched.

Parallels to the Western position can be drawn from the 16 July declaration here too, in that the "most dangerous and destabilising armaments" must first be reduced or withdrawn to prevent a surprise attack.

For us they are battle tanks, armoured infantry fighting vehicles and field artillery.

- A further essential factor for a successful start to negotiations is that both sides are agreed in principle that negotiations on nuclear weapons with a range of less than 500km are to be held separately and at a later date.

These are all initial points of contact on matters of principle that may be inferred from the two declarations. It will be for the conference table to show the extent to which they exist in substance.

Regrettably, and in contrast to these successes the West has achieved, the impression gained by the general public is that Mr Gorbachov and the Warsaw Pact have now grasped the initiative and forced Nato's hand on conventional disarmament talks too.

It looks as though they have constantly submitted new and more far-reaching proposals, with the West invariably promising to consider them but failing to draft a proposal on the sector it sees as the fundamental European security problem: the establishment of conventional stability.

This impression may not be in accordance with the actual position of long negotiations within Nato on the future detailed concept about conventional disarmament, but it is what appears in public to be the case.

The West must not, in the eyes of its own public opinion, be allowed to degenerate to the arbiter of the Gorbachov proposal of the week.

Public expectations of the forthcoming Nato proposal are thus extremely high and the proposal must carry a high degree of conviction.

This is particularly true when what the West must accomplish in the negotiations is taken into account. Their aim must be to eliminate the risk factors that endanger Nato security and to strike a stable balance of power at a lower level.

And that means eliminating the Warsaw Pact's capacity to launch a surprise attack and to stage a ground-gaining offensive.

This capacity is attributable to the several times larger overall size of the Warsaw Pact armed forces in terms of divisions and thus of decisive large-size equipment and of the high degree of Warsaw Pact units in being.

What is more, and in contrast to the points of contact outlined above, there are substantial differences on a number of fundamental issues.

The East, for instance, sees aircraft rather than tanks, armoured infantry vehicles and field artillery as the main means of a surprise attack and a ground-gaining invasion.

Distinct differences of opinion also exist as to who is in the stronger position in respect of which categories. While admitting that it is clearly in the advantage in respect of tanks, the East sees Nato as being in the stronger position in respect of aircraft.

This claim, so totally unsubstantiated by the figures, can only be presumed to be based on the Warsaw Pact discounting an entire category of aircraft — fighters — in which it is numerically stronger by 4,145 to 1,115 planes.

Views also vary widely on regions into which the overall area to be covered, from the Atlantic to the Urals, is to be subdivided.

These points, merely the most important ones, make it clear how important the forthcoming negotiations will be right from their outset.

That is why it is important for the West to draw up a concept and proposals for conventional disarmament that take into account security requirements in respect of maintaining an assured defence capability.

They must also be proposals the East can hardly refuse, proposals that clearly indicate the sacrifices and cuts to be made by the West.

This in no way alters the fact that the Soviet Union, enjoying far greater superiority, will need to disarm to the much larger extent.

The West's proposals ought also to appear understandable, credible and convincing in the eyes of Western public opinion.

The negotiations on conventional stability in Europe will only superficially deal solely with weapon systems. Basically they will entail the future overall political shape of Europe as a whole.

For this the West, no less than the East, will need both visions and a long-term strategy, and both must be apparent in the Western proposals.

What shape might these proposals take? The first objective must be to reach agreement on radical reductions on both sides in Central Europe, reductions to joint ceilings at a lower level, for crucial large-scale equipment such as battle tanks, armoured infantry vehicles and field artillery.

Central Europe, or the central region in Europe, must be defined as extending from Great Britain and Portugal in the west to the Urals in the east.

That doesn't mean that aircraft are not to be discussed at the talks. But there are convincing reasons why they would be better discussed at a second, later stage in conventional disarmament negotiations.

There must be no underestimating the objective difficulties arising from the sheer mobility of aircraft and their verifiability.

To include them in the first stage of talks would merely be to overburden and to make more difficult what, in comparison with the INF talks, are already extremely difficult conventional disarmament negotiations.

By concentrating to begin with on land-based forces, in other words the battle tanks, armoured infantry vehicles and field artillery needed to successfully carry out and conclude an invasion, air forces will also be limited in effect.

Besides, the manoeuvre notification procedure agreed as part of the CSCE, or Helsinki, process are a comparable and successful example of practical, step-by-step progress in disarmament.

A comprehensible, credible and courageous start to negotiations aimed at eliminating the Warsaw Pact's invasion capability might consist of three mutually complementary and inextricably interlinked features:

- Joint ceilings at a lower level (lower than the Nato level) are to be agreed in respect of decisive large-scale equipment in the central region.

They must be implemented by means of asymmetrical reductions as politically accepted by the Warsaw Pact. In other words, the weapon systems for disarmament must be scrapped entirely

- At the same time stocks of the large-scale equipment that remains within these ceilings must be halved, with half kept in service with active units and half being mothballed.

The depots where mothballed equipment is kept will be strictly checked by the other side, and the formula for negotiations at this stage will thus be equal ceilings minus 50 per cent.

- The ratio of local to foreign troops stationed in a country must be defined so as to ensure that 50 per cent at most of the weapon systems mothballed is to be put into storage by the stationing powers, in other words the United States and the Soviet Union.

What would this mean for, say, main battle tanks? East and West must first agree on a joint ceiling of about 15,000 battle tanks in the central region and scrap any above this number.

This ceiling would then be halved, leaving only about 7,500 tanks active. The rest would be mothballed and kept under surveillance.

In keeping with this 50-per-cent principle the two sides ought also to agree to half at most of the remaining 7,500 tanks either on active service or in mothballs being tanks of armed forces stationed in another country.

Similar and comparable figures, with other ceilings, would apply to armoured infantry vehicles and to field artillery.

The precondition for realisation of this proposal is the maintenance of a credible deterrent based on the lowest possible number of nuclear weapons.

For the West that would mean Nato disarming by about 15 per cent to 85 per cent of its present strength in Central Europe. And a further 50 per cent could be mothballed — over and above the percentage already kept in storage.

These would be clear cuts and sacrifices but, because of them, the proposal would, without eliminating Nato's defence capability, be highly credible.

Implementation of this proposal, which would lead to the Soviet Union, for instance, retaining only 3,750 battle tanks on active service abroad.

That would completely transform the security situation in Europe, justifying the political courage shown by Nato in making such clear cuts and sacrifices.

Volker Rühe

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 22 September 1988)

Continued from page 2

use or poor maintenance. The Soviet Union evidently has difficulty in appreciating the need for and importance of assessments arrived at by Western experts.

It takes political goodwill to mean a go-ahead even when German experts return perplexed from fact-finding missions to the Soviet Union.

The high standard of Soviet space technology, for instance, cannot paper over the fact that Soviet infrastructure is on a par with that of a developing country and that the Soviet Union lacks entrepreneurial experience.

The Russians have yet to do what the Chinese have been doing for years: importing Western management know-how.

A symptomatic feature of the situation is that not a single Soviet citizen is enrolled as a student in the Federal Republic. This is an opportunity of fruitful development aid that would literally pay dividends to both sides.

There is certainly still sand in the works of preparations for the Chancellor's visit to Moscow. Maybe Foreign Ministers Genscher and Shevardnadze will have succeeded in sifting some of it in New York.

Chancellor Kohl will certainly have breathed a sigh of relief after the declarations by Mr Shevardnadze and US Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington.

Bonn faces a less uphill task now the United States has agreed to start talking about conventional arms reduction and is less tight-lipped about a ban on chemical weapons.

In both sectors Bonn is keenly interested in coming to terms — but largely out on a limb in the Western alliance.

Mere mention of the topics, let alone specific proposals by the Soviet leader, could have caused Chancellor Kohl great embarrassment in the past.

As it is, he and Herr Genscher can now claim in Moscow to have consistently argued their point in Nato and with the United States, and to have achieved results.

Herr Kohl's visit to Moscow will be followed in mid-1989 by a visit to Bonn by Mr Gorbachov.

The Soviet leader will by then have seen the back of the party congress next April that will decide where he stands in respect of power and leeway.

In Washington there will be a new man at the White House. So whatever is not accomplished in Moscow this time can wait until next year, which is a pre-election year in Germany.

Hans Schmitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 26 September 1988)

■ PARLIAMENT

Controversy over computer information for politicians

Free Democrat Karl-Hans Laermann has for some time enjoyed a special advantage over the other 518 members of the Bonn Bundestag.

Professor Laermann, an engineer from Mönchengladbach, is the first Bonn MP to arrange for direct telephone access to the fast-growing world market of computerised information.

Using the office computer his secretary has to handle correspondence, he can dial for a printout of news agency reports, retrieve information from data banks at home and abroad and even rely on an electronic mail service with anyone whose computer uses the same operating system.

Professor Laermann fought a long battle to gain access to national and international data networks. He made his first application to the Bundespost and the Bundestag administration in 1984.

Before his application was approved, in 1986, he needed the special permission of Bundestag Speaker Philipp Jenninger, which was only granted after a further paper-chase.

The Bundestag administration was, in his view, to blame for many an unnecessary obstacle. "From their point of view uninformed MPs are best."

Low awareness

But he doubts whether many of his fellow-MPs have yet realised the importance of modern information and communication techniques for their work: "The level of awareness in Parliament is fairly low."

Yet the Bundestag has now taken its first step in the direction of electronic information and communication technology.

The secretaries and personal assistants of 50 MPs have tested a computerised communications system known as Parlakom since October 1986.

They were recently joined by the staff of members of the Bundestag finance committee.

Parlakom is an experiment in how everyday Bundestag office work can be made easier and extended by means of computer terminals.

A report to MPs about the experiment said: "The assemblies of parliamentary democracies have increasingly numerous and complicated tasks to perform in fulfilling their constitutional tasks of supervising legislation and keeping tabs on the government.

"That is why it is essential to equip members and parliaments with the best and most effective work aids available."

Computer specialists from the Society for Mathematics and Data Processing in Birlinghoven, near Bonn, and a Wiesbaden firm of management consultants drew up a three-part programme for MPs.

The first stage is now complete. It consists of simple office applications, including text output and filing, computer communications with the MP's constituency and access to simple information services.

The second stage is designed to give MPs access to the full range of data services once all their office computers are linked to Hicom, the first Siemens ISDN branch exchange.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

ISDN stands for integrated services data network. It uses digital technology to relay sound, vision and data of all kinds via the Bundespost's telecom network.

Data can already be relayed via conventional copper coaxial cables but speed and efficiency will be improved enormously once optical cables have been laid as planned all over the country.

MPs are expected to take two years to learn how to handle the full range of ISDN services.

The third and most important stage of the Parlakom project probably sounds utopian to politicians in Bonn. It involves a staff of scientific assistants, who have yet to be trained, to analyse and process information that is relayed to MPs via their computers.

Manufacturers and Parlakom planners make far-reaching claims for the system.

Computers, they say, can help MPs to keep an eye on the executive more effectively and will present an opportunity for realignment of the power relationship between the legislative and executive branches of government.

"The individual MP," they say, "has little to set against the bureaucracy of government with its wide-ranging technical and manpower facilities for compiling and processing information.

"He seems to be worse informed than those whose work he is supposed to check.

"The opportunities of and limitations to technical access to Federal and state government and institutional data for MPs will probably need reappraising.

"The possibilities arising from free technical access for MPs to the data bases of such institutions are likely to have a substantial effect on their political dependence or freedom and their ability to prevail in argument."

The Bundestag evidently doesn't yet feel called upon to put the machinery of government on an electronic leash. "There is no discussion whatever of gaining access to the data banks of the executive," Professor Laermann says.



Civil servants prefer uninformed MPs, says the FDP's Karl-Hans Laermann, the only MP with a computer terminal. (Photo: Bernd Arnold)

Yet the finance committee decided to join the Parlakom scheme because its members were annoyed about their lack of access to budget data kept by the authorities.

Federal government departments have so far made sure of gaining further advantages over the legislature by making use of electronic data processing, says Social Democrat Sigrid Skarpelis-Sperk.

Dr Skarpelis-Sperk chairs the parliamentary commission on the use of new information and communication techniques.

She feels parliamentarians all over the world have found that the existing advantage the government has over parliament in its access to information has been further increased, very much to the disadvantage of parliament, by new information and communication techniques.

The Parlakom project is now heading into Year Two, whereas the central offices of the CDU, the SPD and the FDP have used computer systems for years.

Only the Greens, who are most distrustful of centralised computer technology, have yet to join the ranks of party-political computer users.

All that has happened as a result of their reservations is that they have been criticised by the alternative computer specialists who were supposed to supply them with arguments.

The Green parliamentary party commissioned a report from the Chaos Computer Club, Hamburg, on whether they ought to take part in the Parlakom project.

The hackers merely made fun of their principal, saying: "Deliberately fuelled fear of and respect for an assembly of mechanically soldered silicium chips blocks irreverent use of a medium misused as a means of control. The policy so far pursued by the Greens in effect backs up this policy of exercising control."

A second report commissioned from the Institute of Socially Acceptable Technology, Darmstadt, describes the ISDN system as a highly sensitive and dangerous system at the hub of power:

"The ISDN exchange will become the nerve centre of data exchange in the Bundestag and be highly susceptible to attack as a result.

Dangers

"The privileged access enjoyed by system administrators and maintenance staff is particularly problematic. Virtually all manipulation of the system, such as rerouting links and reading files, can be undertaken without trace by alterations to the software.

"Neither the horrific vision of totalitarian rule nor that of an omnipresent foreign intelligence service is needed to appreciate the dangers posed to a communications system used as part of the many and varied activities of parliament."

As the ISDN exchange will note who exchanged data with whom and when — if only to draw up telephone bills — uncontrollable rogue programmes can be used to draw up outlines of MPs' interests and activities.

The Barschel affair has made MPs belonging to parties other than the Greens more keenly aware of this problem and willing to take warnings seriously.

Since the affair that led to the resignation of Schleswig-Holstein Premier Uwe Barschel, MPs have wondered how much data will be stored at an ISDN exchange when the Bundespost in Kiel was able to say when the Premier's car phone was used and who was phoned.

Christian Democrat Erich Maass, vice-chairman of Dr Skarpelis-Sperk's commission, frankly refers to what he calls a Barschel effect, by which he means growing mistrust of electronic telecom equipment. "Protection of MPs," he says, "has gained fresh importance."

That is anything but grist to the mill for Siemens, who are keenly interested, for commercial reasons, in seeing their

Continued on page 8

■ PERSPECTIVE

Seeking solutions is neither appeasement nor weakness

For centuries appeasement was a highly respectable term, signifying pacification and reconciliation as the overriding objective of statesmanship.

For the past 50 years it has had negative connotations, being seen as synonymous with cowardly compliance and knuckling under to blustering dictators, with dishonourable capitulation and assiduous propitiation.

The umbrella Neville Chamberlain took with him to Munich, where he, Hitler, Mussolini and Daladier sealed the partition of Czechoslovakia, came to symbolise cowardice, and Munich itself to stand for the quintessence of ignominious diplomacy.

The shame still hurts, and comparisons with 1938 are still regularly drawn by contemporaries, rightly or wrongly.

Berlin students sent John F. Kennedy an umbrella when he allowed the Berlin Wall to be built with folded arms.

A number of Europeans cried "Munich!" when President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachov appeared to be reaching agreement in Reykjavik on a nuclear weapons-free world they felt was wishful thinking.

In the United States a right-wing Anti-Appeasement Alliance sees the INF Treaty scrapping medium-range missiles all over the world as a second Munich.

For the Western democracies Munich was "defeat without war," as Chamberlain's harshest critic, Winston Churchill, bitterly remarked at the time.

Was it an inevitable defeat? Adolf Hitler was determined not to be deprived of his war, so it is pointless to argue that the surrender of Prague whetted his appetite for expansion. Hitler was not to be deterred.

Were the democracies better equipped for war when he finally waged it a year later? Or did the delay merely strengthen the German war potential by enabling Hitler to clothe many of his troops in Czech uniforms and to equip them with Czech tanks?

Historians are sure to disagree on this point for decades to come, but what statesmen must do is consider the political lessons to be learnt here and now.

Their classic definition of the lesson to be learnt from Munich is, to quote Richard Ullmann: "Never make concessions to a political opponent that he might be able to interpret as weakness."

Or, to quote Gerhard L. Weinberg: "Youg must act at the first opportunity to stop an act of aggression."

These formulas seem to carry conviction, yet a review of the past five decades will be sufficient to realise that the lesson of Munich has often enough been applied in the wrong instance.

Analogy is very much the luck of the draw. As a philosopher put it, a cat that has once sat on a hot stove will never again sit on a stove, even a cold one.

A man who has once burnt himself on a stove, Henry Kissinger once said, extending this line of thought, has to decide from case to case whether or not he is standing in front of a stove.

To recognise, compare and distinguish: this is the most difficult part of statesmanship.

Since the end of the Second World War the necessary ability to differentiate has not always been around at the right time.

It was right to stem the tide of communist expansion in Greece and Turkey in 1947, in Berlin in 1948/49 and 1958/59, in Korea in 1950 and in Cuba in 1962 when Mr Khrushchev tried to base Soviet nuclear missiles in the Caribbean.

These were instances in which memories of Munich served a useful purpose. On each and every occasion a line had to be drawn, thus far and no further, because the Kremlin's lines of expansion aimed at the very heart of American power and, with it, of Western security.

Yet in other instances the analogy was misleading. They included the fiasco of the attempted invasion of Cuba on the Bay of Pigs under President Kennedy, and Indo-China, where President Johnson aimed to prevent "another Munich" in Vietnam.

The same goes for Central America, where President Reagan mistook irksome pinpricks on the US perimeter for a central challenge, or the Third World, including the Persian Gulf, where regional upsets and outbreaks of local national ambition were automatically suspected of having been manipulated by the long hand of Moscow.

Hans J. Morgenthau, the past master of international relations, made an early contribution toward the debate on Munich that is well worth bearing in mind.

"Appeasement," he wrote, "is a corrupt policy of compromise. Its fault lies *in regarding a policy of imperialism* as a policy of maintaining the status quo.

"While it would be disastrous to counter imperialist attacks with measures appropriate to a status quo policy, it would be only marginally less risky to react to a policy aimed at mere readjustments within the framework of the existing state of affairs as though it were imperialist."

Munich was undeniably an act of abortive diplomacy, but one must not behave as though diplomacy were on its account ruled out forever as of no use, and there have been times in the post-war years when the West allowed itself to be governed by this misguided rejection of negotiations of any kind.

The most recent occasion was during Ronald Reagan's first term as President, when Richard Pipes and Richard Perle dismissed contacts of any kind with the Kremlin as useless, not to say harmful.

Many arguments that have been advanced over the past 20 years against the policy of detente can frankly only be seen as a misguided use of the lessons of Munich.

Neville Chamberlain's attitude in September 1938 was based on a best-case analysis of Hitler's intentions. The British Prime Minister believed the Führer's untruthful protestations that he had no further territorial demands.

To this day we must indeed be careful not to be so credulous in dealings with the Kremlin, but that is not, by any stretch of the imagination, to say that the worst-case analysis by which conservatives are guided in the West is warranted by the facts.

It is not to say that a total refusal to believe the Kremlin leaders on any point whatsoever would be a sounder basis for Ostpolitik.

British writer Philip Toynbee, son of the renowned historian Arnold Toynbee, advised the West in 1958 to capitulate to the Soviet Union without a fight in order to forestall nuclear mass murder.

His argument, penned under the shock of the Sputnik, the first Soviet spacecraft, was as senseless as the arguments put forward today by those who call for unilateral disarmament.

Scepticism remains advisable. Honourable though Mr Gorbachov's intentions may be, we cannot be sure whether he will succeed and we must take out insurance against his possible failure,

Should he fail it would have been irresponsible on our part to dispense prematurely or unilaterally with our insurance cover.

Yet Morgenthau's warning still carries weight and we must not treat a status-quo power in the same way as a state hell-bent on expansion.

Hitler wanted war; Gorbachov doesn't — and can hardly do so in the shadow of nuclear weapons. That is an entirely different basis on which to do business.

Constant continuation of the arms race is not the answer either. It is high time man crawled back from the brink of disaster, as Arthur Schlesinger once said. He cannot do so without negotiations, without compromises or without solutions on a basis of cooperation.

The quest for solutions of this kind is not appeasement or cowardly propitiation.

So let us have no qualms, 50 years after Munich, about helping the concept of appeasement to regain the splendour of common sense it enjoyed until Hitler's dictate gave it the hallmark of humiliation and weakness.

Conservative political philosophers have always known that negotiation and compromise cannot be dispensed with entirely. "Every government, every virtue and every sensible course of action is based on bargaining and compromise," *Edmund Burke said 200 years ago.*

Forty years ago Walter Lippmann wrote: "The history of diplomacy is the history of relations between rivals. Yet settlements have been reached. Some did not last long, others did.

"A diplomat who feels no agreements can be reached between rival powers is forgetting the very essence of diplomacy."

The best witness is Winston Churchill, who warned against Munich yet in 1953, after Stalin's death, was strongly in favour of negotiations and detente with the East.

In the first volume of his monumental history of the Second World War, published in 1948, he wrote:

"People who are predisposed by temperament and character to seek clear and distinct solutions to difficult and obscure problems, who are prepared to fight whenever an external power challenges them, have not always been right.

"On the other hand those whose inclination it is staunchly and patiently to seek peaceful compromises are not always wrong.

"Quite the opposite, in most cases they are probably right, not just morally but also in terms of practical considerations."

The classic lesson of Munich will be amply recalled on the 50th anniversary of the fateful meeting, and it is, in essense, not to yield under pressure.

Yet a further realisation must not go unheeded. It is that negotiations must not be stubbornly resisted where no pressure need be feared or such pressure as may be encountered can be offset by one's own potential.

The overriding objective of statesmanship must always, especially in the nuclear age, be to arrive at a reliable modus vivendi, a way of life that spells survival.

Theo Sommer

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 23 September 1988)

■ TRADE

Russians show enthusiasm for busier German link

Moscow has never given such clear indications that wants closer economic links with this country.

German politicians and businessmen have long been hoping for better trading relations with the Soviet Union.

There is only one thing lacking: orders. There have been no major project contracts since 1985.

Trade has been declining and it has taken much effort to maintain even this reduced level. Hopes are high that Chancellor Kohl's coming visit to Moscow will end the wait for orders.

But politicians are more optimistic than the businessmen and technicians who have to sell in the Soviet Union.

In view of political conditions, prospects in this huge market on our doorstep must get better. For some weeks, Moscow has been putting a new emphasis on foreign trade.

Party leader Mikhail Gorbachov intends to open up the market. In foreign trade there is a sense of setting out on a completely new road as a result of the economic reforms.

It is hoped German industry will help to modernise the consumer goods industries in Russia. Major projects can be expected again.

Until now imaginative ideas for projects have not got past the drawing-board stage; now progress seems to have been made. Negotiations are under way for German participation in the development and processing of projects involving raw materials and energy.

Whether wide-ranging cooperation will be possible depends on the outcome of the economic reforms, which have started in chaos. Gorbachov needs help from the outside to be able to press ahead.

None of his predecessors have stated so frankly that the Soviet Union is dependent on western technology. But not only that: Russia is dependent on the West for management expertise and for advice from abroad for the training and advanced training of qualified personnel.

Chancellor Kohl says that the success of Gorbachov's reforms is in the best interests of Germany.

As far as that concerns capturing orders Federal Republic suppliers are well placed. Of all the Western nations, they are the most trusted and the closest to Soviet officials. This is confirmed time and time again in discussions.

This is why Moscow has invited German entrepreneurs to participate extensively in the restructuring of entire

Frankfurter Allgemeine

sectors of the consumer goods and foodstuffs industries.

The Soviet leadership is changing course in its desire for closer economic and technical links. This is particularly true about the decision to ask for foreign capital. It seems that Moscow has given up resistance to demands of investors for a majority holding in a joint venture company.

What is more important for German partners than a high financial participation is guaranteeing material supplies from sub-contractors, proper working and living conditions for personnel sent to Russia and that at least some of the hoped-for profits at the end of the year can be exchanged for foreign currency.

Prospects could improve in traditional export sectors. With the announcement of economic reforms soviet republics, industrial regions and major factories have been allowed to set up their own foreign trade organisations.

Delegations are fanning out to familiarise themselves with foreign markets.

New export possibilities could emerge from the discussions politicians and businessmen from the federal states have had in the Soviet Union.

Enquiries in Russia show that there has been no confusion caused by the federal states promoting their own foreign trade. Delegations from the states have in fact prepared the ground well for further exchanges of ideas.

The main reasons why these activities have not led to signed contracts to be reflected in foreign trade statistics are that economic reforms and major projects cannot be put in hand overnight.

Furthermore the Soviet Union's continued poor export performance for manufactured goods and depressed energy prices have led to a shortage of foreign exchange.

Changes made to the foreign trade organisation have for the moment caused wide-spread uncertainty and confusion about who is responsible for what rather than more efficiency, which should result from a decentralised Russian import-export organisation, brought into closer contact with practical realities.

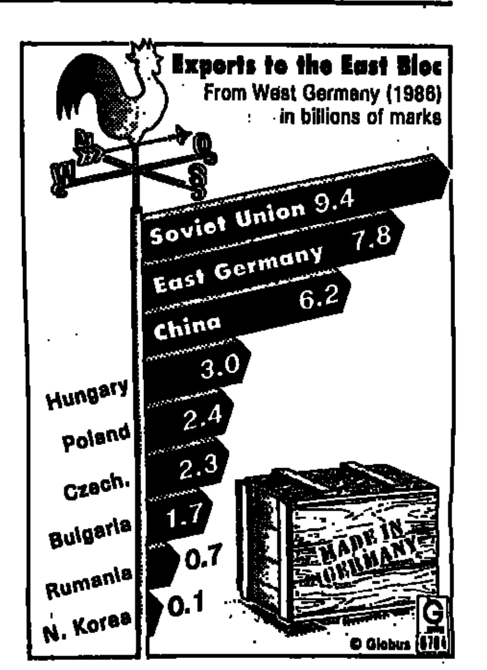
Hardly any major contracts are being signed because at present scarcely anyone knows properly what are his responsibilities and what he is empowered to decide upon.

There have also been hold-ups while German exporters get to know their new opposite numbers. After so many fundamental changes it will take time before getting into the swing of things.

There are many difficulties and they will not vanish because Chancellor Kohl has been invited to Moscow.

But the members of the Chancellor's entourage accompanying him to Moscow can make use of their stay there to suggest improvements to routine matters in foreign trade, and sound out their Russian colleagues about new opportunities for cooperation.

Only projects that are in the pipeline



will be speeded up by Chancellor Kohl's visit.

It is a Soviet leadership ritual that after such visits a statement of intent, at least, is signed.

Because of this many projects will be brought to the contract-signing point as a result of the Chancellor's visit, contracts that would otherwise have been delayed or would have fallen through.

Business people involved in trade with the Soviet Union will need to exercise patience and calm after the Chancellor's visit.

The fears disappointed people, well-acquainted with the Russian market from their day to day work, hold, fears that there is not much going on there at the moment, could become a reality.

Klaus Broichhausen

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 September 1988)

Continued from page 1

cannot be solved by money alone. In fact, new loans could even worsen the plight of the developing countries.

If loans are not put to profitable use, the debt burden becomes even more unbearable.

If loans lead to the desired economic growth in the Third World there is clearly a greater risk to the environment.

The task of the future is to improve the debt situation, economic growth, the state of the environment and living conditions at one and the same time.

New patterns were outlined in Berlin and positions started to change. But success is still some way off.

Wolfgang Koch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 September 1988)

Plodding along the essential road to Peking

Premiers of the German *Länder* regard not having been to China as a sort of black mark: now Henning Voscherau, Mayor of Hamburg, (and therefore equivalent to the Premier or Prime Minister of other *Länder*) is going there.

Although there is little room for foreign-policy manoeuvring by Hamburg, Voscherau does hope that he might be able to open doors for trade.

This has been the aim of the many others in whose footsteps he is following.

Few developing countries are visited with such pleasure by politicians as the Chinese People's Republic (population: 1.1 billion).

It seems that the array of contact at various levels (heads of government, foreign ministry, finance ministry, economics ministry) is not enough.

So, a line of senior regional politicians have been to China: Eberhard Diepgen (West Berlin), Oskar Lafontaine (The Saar), Franz Josef Strauss (Bavaria), the late Uwe Barschel (Schleswig-Holstein), Johannes Rau (North Rhine-Westphalia) and Lothar Späth (Baden-Württemberg). All have been acompanied by senior businessmen.

An attempt to explain this lies in the Chinese saying: "Many threads make a rope."

After the death of Chinese leader Mao Zedong and the tempestuous liberalisation of the economy, China's foreign trade decision-making became even more tortuous for German businessmen. It developed into a jungle of red-tape and political unpredictability.

The constant trips to China by senior politicians and businessmen mirror this process.

Hardly a contract is ever signed, joint venture set up, licence agreed or a cooperation arrangement concluded without political backup.

After the euphoria of the change of course in 1980-1981 there was a phase of sobriety, when the Chinese cancelled many contracts. They had to tread more cautiously because of their lack of foreign exchange.

Since then foreign trade has increased. It even became hectic for a time, but last year it levelled off and a period of cautious consolidation set in.

Because of its foreign trade deficit Peking has throttled back imports by 20 per cent, while the Federal Republic has increased imports from China by something like 25 per cent.

China experts reckon that in 1989 and 1990 there will be moderate growth rates in China's trade.

The fascination with China stems from the size of the market, its raw materials, cheap labour and the chances China offers as a taking-off point for the Asian-Pacific region.

These factors, combined with German quality technology, have led to more than 400 cooperation contracts and 100 licence agreements.

But about a fifth of all new business comes to grief. There is varying success with ventures that get started.

Heinrich Weiss, chairman of the China Working Group in the Far East Committee of the German Economy (Cologne), said that business with China was very arduous.

A member of this oganisation, Schloemann-Siemag, has been suppling complete rolling mills to China.

Weiss's assessment is a little exaggerated. There is a lack of qualified personnel, awareness of quality and sub-contractors.

There is also a lack of foreign exchange and the decision-making processes cannot be understood properly. Inefficiency, nepotism and corruption are rife.

Companies not only have to contend with sudden power cuts, a rebellious labour force, closed-down traffic and supply routes, but also with increasing competition from the European Community, the USA and Japan.

Moscow is also putting out feelers. The Soviet Union has promised China its largest credit so far (about DM150m) for the construction of a rail link.

It is not only the Russians who are tempting the Chinese: the West is doing the same thing, with state subsidies, frowned upon in Bonn.

The most successful traveller to China has been Franz Josef Strauss. He has been there five times. Effevescent Lothar Späth claims that he has done well for Baden-Württemberg's industry. There are 100 German firms operating in China with any number of contacts.

Everyone knows that no-one is going to make a quick mark in China. Businessmen are thinking in the long-term.

Journeys to China will not come to an end, particularly in view of the saying that Späth quotes: "At the first meeting a stranger, by the second an acquaintance, by the third friend."

Peter Gillies

(Die Welt, Bonn, 19 September 1988)

■ BUSINESS

Expanding Bosch moves from spark plugs into anti-skid brakes and communications

Robert Bosch, the second-biggest electrical group in Germany (after Siemens) was founded 102 years ago, is still 90 per cent owned by the Bosch Foundation. The firm makes items like spark plugs and car batteries and and anti-blocking braking systems (designed to prevent skidding). It is moving into communications through developing its own division and by buying into other companies. Last year, Bosch reported profits up from 454 million marks in 1986 to 825 million marks — an enormous 83 per cent in a year when Siemens profits dropped 13 per cent. Hans Otto Eglau reports on the Bosch style for the national weekly, *Die Zeit*.

When Bosch profits last year were announced at 825 million marks, an 83 per cent increase over 1986, company chairman Marcus Bierich observed wryly: "I should quit now."

What he meant was that he was hardly likely to be preside over such a profitable year again for a while.

There was one special factor in this boom year for Germany's leading car-parts manufacturer: it got rid of its shareholding in the Chicago-based conglomerate of Borg Warner, which it had acquired in 1976, for a good price.

Pulling out from Warner was inevitable soon or later. The failure of an attempt to reach a cooperation agreement brought matters to a head.

But the Warner retreat apart, Bosch headquarters are set on expansion. In 1982 Bosch invested almost DM750m worldwide; last year more than DM2bn; and the tendency is up.

At the beginning of the 1980s Bosch was the 20th biggest company in German in turnover terms. Now it is 10th.

In the past few years the car industry sales have been very healthy. At the same time there have been spectacular advances in Bosch products, spark plugs, fuel injection and anti-blocking braking systems (which are designed to prevent skidding).

The company's declared aim was to limit its business with the car industry to 50 per cent (at present it is 54 per cent) — to spread risks.

Bosch has bought into the communications sector, expanding its activities in household equipment, electrical appliances, heating and water-heating equipment (together accounting for 17.5 per cent of business), and industrial equipment and packing machinery (together 6.6 per cent of business).

Eventually 22 per cent, or DM25bn, of the company's sales were in the communications sector.

This was achieved by taking over Frankfurt-based Telenorma, specialists in telephone exchange equipment, and acquiring a majority holding in ANT communications technology (radio link sytems, mobile radio sytems and communications satellites), both formerly in the AEG sphere of influence.

Bierich, successor to Hans Merkles, has been in his job for four years, and he will have his hands full in the future with these two most important divisions in his company.

Demand for petrol and diesel injection systems is increasing all the time. Since 1967 Bosch has equipped more than 20 million cars with computer-controlled fuel injection systems. This year alone 3.2 million units will be produced.

Last year only 54 per cent of all petrol-fuelled cars in the Federal Republic were fitted with computer-controlled injection systems which reduce consumption and pollutant exhaust gas: in 1990 the figure will be 85 per cent.

Over the same period the figure in Europe will increase from 31 to 47 per cent. Bosch is equally optimistic in its estimates of developments in the USA and Japan. The company has 75 per cent of the world market for injection systems, including production by foreign licence holders.

Over the next few years Bosch will be able to display its strengths in the fast-growing anti-blocking systems (ABS) market. Bosch is a market leader in this sector as well.

Three million anti-blocking system units have been sold since Bosch began to manufacture them ten years ago, the first in the world. A boom in this business is expected.

At present only about 20 per cent of vehicles rolling off Federal Republic production lines are fitted with electronic anti-blocking systems. In Europe only ten per cent of new cars are fitted with this safety device, and a mere 2.5 per cent in America.

Bosch opened an ABS production factory at Immenstadt on Lake Constance in 1986, employing 1,250, but its production is inadequate to meet demand.

To increase production Bosch has recently put into operation another factory to produce ABS units at Ansbach, built in only 13 months.

It is expected that this new market will really take off in the USA, where an anti-blocking system is no longer an optional

DIE ZEIT

accessory but is now offered as a standard fitting.

Until now Bosch has served the American market with production from Germany, but from next year onwards Bosch factories in Charleston and Anderson in South Carolina will serve the American market direct. It is planned to produce 450,000 units annually.

The build-up of Japanese production capacities in the US has created a completely new situation for Bosch in America.

Japanese sub-constractors producing Bosch injection systems and anti-blocking systems under licence are following behind Japanese investors and setting up in America.

Without any hope of penetrating the tightly-closed Japanese market with its own production, Bosch managers had early on looked around for companies to manufacture their injection technology under licence.

Since 1953 Bosch has worked together with Nippondenso, a company closely linked to Toyota. Bosch has a six per cent interest in Nippondenso — paid for by leaving licence fees in Japan.

Bosch has cooperated even longer with Diesel Kiki for the manufacture of diesel injection systems. Bosch has a minority holding of 14 per cent in this company, which is in the sphere of influence of vehicle manufacturers Isuzu and Nissan.

Furthermore in 1984, to develop the Japanese market for anti-blocking systems, Bosch set up Nippon ABS Limited along with the leading Japanese brakes manufacturer, Nippon Air Brake, a company associated with Kobe Steel.

Next month Bosch will increase its holding in Nippon ABS Limited, that supplies ABS systems to three Japanese car manufacturers for 12 models, from 35 per cent to 50 per cent.

Unlike the German car industry Bosch has been able to keep Japanese competition at a distance through its superior technology and its licensing policy, linked to protecting markets.

But Marcus Bierich knows only too well that his company can only maintain this lead by keeping permanently ahead with technology.

Bosch marketing strategies as regards South Korean newcomers in the car industry have been governed by the company's recognition of the dangers from the Far East.

To be among sub-contractors last year alone the South Koreans, the most aggressive of manufacturers in the Far East, increased car production by 163 per cent to almost a million units.

After Hyundai's successful début in America — the South Koreans are already selling over 100,000 cars in the US annually — Bierich is convinced that sooner or later the South Koreans will turn their eyes on the European market.

Last year Bosch joined forces with Hyundai and the Japanese Mitsubishi group to produce jointly in Korea components for petrol injection systems, but this is not the last move Bosch management intends to make to maintain its domination of world markets.

Several years ago Bosch concluded a joint venture agreement in South Korea for diesel injection systems.

Bosch was founded 102 years ago by Robert Bosch in a small Stuttgart factory. Since its inception the company has had to face up to competition and Bosch's current global concept is an answer to the increasing competition the company has to face today.

Bosch feels itself challenged by firms with their own anti-blocking systems such as Alfred Teves at Bergneustadt near Cologne, and the Mannesmann group, which is aggressively making inroads into the car accessories sector through its subsidiary Fichtel & Sachs of Schweinfurt, manufacturers of clutches, shock absorbers and suspension struts.

According to industry forecasts, electronics in the car industry will grow by 20 per cent annually in future, twice as fast as in office and data technology and three times faster than telecommunications.

Siemens, Bosch partners in household equipment, has set its sights on fuel injection technology, dominated by Bosch, through its alliance with American subcontractors Bendix Electronic.

Siemens could sooner or later become a serious competitor with sophisticated electronics for cars, unlike AEG, fitted out by Daimler-Benz for new ventures, which has made its way on the periphery of the car industry rather than in the high technology sector.

There is no quick success to be had in this fast-moving sector. Bosch had to work for ten years on its anti-blocking system before it could be included in car series production.

Robert Bosch began manufacturing a petrol injection system in 1937 — for aircraft engines. Bosch's strength lies in low-cost mass production of systems of high precision and quality, systems which were for the most part the result of the company's own developments and experiences in industrial equipment. To this can be added a forward-looking, worldwide production network.

The company manufactures not only in Brazil, where 12,000 are employed, but in India where labour is cheap, and where at present the company employs 8,700 in two factories producing car parts.

A third factory, being built not far from the first in Bangalore, is scheduled to go into production next year.

In Spain, where Bosch operates its largest production plant in Europe outside the Federal Republic, Bosch employs 5,000 producing parts for the automobile industry, of which 52 per cent of production is exported.

Bosch has said that the company intends to increase production abroad.

In communications technology Bosch, as a newcomer nationally, must meet the high standards set by major groups, operating internationally and which have a dominant position in the sector, and not from the position of a company that is a market leader and in some regions has a monopoly position.

For this reason what now matters to Bosch managers is to standardise its communications group, composed of companies mainly acquired by purchase, into a homogeneous division and to trim it to meet European needs.

The first step was made at the beginning of this year with the acquisition of JS-Telecommunications from the Jeumont-Schneider Group, a French company, like Telenorma, that has been successful with private telephone equipment.

Furthermore much effort was called for to build up an effective distribution organisation overseas for Telenorma, traditionally geared to meet domestic demand, and ANT, which suffered from being linked to the AEG worldwide sales network. Bosch managers have shown caution and a feel for the feasible with their new division.

The company has given up attempts to acquire a famous EDP company, seriously regarded a few years ago as complementary to the communications division.

Telenorma will continue to lean on the technology of its tried and tested partner Siemens in exchange technology.

With the establishment of a new division, "Mobile Communications," Bosch managers have combined parts of their new field of activities with their automobile technolgy, in which they have a leading position.

Internal organisation links should ensure for Bosch a lead in the future in orientation and navigation systems for car drivers.

Bosch is working in a consortium with Telenorma, ANT and Philips on a digital mobile radio system that should be introduced by 1991.

It is conceivable that Bosch will come into closer contact in new fields of activity in the future with its customer and, through AEG, competitor, Daimler-Benz.

When Daimler-Benz, as planned, moves into the Munich-based aviation and space group MBB, Daimler-Benz will come in contact with Bosch because the company has almost a five per cent holding in MBB.

MBB and Dornier, which will in future operate under the Daimler-Benz umbrella, have for a long time done business with Backnang-based Bosch subsidiary ANT in communications equipment for satellites and space projects.

Hans Otto Eglau

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 30 September 1988)

■ BUSINESS

Perestroika with a pils: Hamburg man to open bar in Leningrad

RHEINISCHER MERKUR

Perestroika and glasnost go down well with a beer, says Hamburg publican Broder Drees, 42. By the end of the year his latest pub — a bar on Nevsky Prospekt in the heart of Leningrad — is due to open.

The first of its kind in the Soviet Union, it will serve German beer and nautical snacks from his home town, the port city of Hamburg.

They will include such wholesome and tasty fare as *Labskaus*, a sailors' stew known in Liverpool as "scouse," and *Matjes*, or white herring.

His bar will be the first bona fide German-Soviet joint venture in the catering trade. The idea was born on the wings of a *schnapps*, during a visit to Hamburg by a high-ranking delegation from Leningrad some years ago.

The person detailed to show them round Hamburg took them more than once to Drees' city-centre beer bar, the Uhlenspieker.

A Soviet official in an expansive mood, cheered no doubt by beer, schnapps and — one hopes — Hamburg hospitality, said a bar like that was just what they could do with in Leningrad.

An idea was born. But it was years before anything definite came of it. For a decade old ties were consolidated and new links forged to pave the way through the red tape in the land of Mr Gorbachov.

"I have been in Leningrad over 100 times," Drees says. "I know the city like the back of my hand and I simply love it."

In January 1987 legislation was passed in the Soviet Union finally making joint ventures possible.

"The Russians," or so Drees says, "asked me on a recent visit to Hamburg whether I was still interested. The contract was drawn up and signed in my bar that very evening."

And although, in keeping with the Soviet legislation, 51 per cent of the capital must be Soviet-owned, Drees says he and his Leningrad partner, Oleg Tartakowski, are on fair terms as equal partners.

Even before his first bar has opened Broder Drees has the option to take up further premises in Leningrad and the general concession to open beer bars all over the Soviet Union.

In other words, ideas about a chain of bars are more than pipe-dreams. If his plans work, his German beer will soon be sold at bars in Moscow, on the Black Sea and in other cities on the Baltic coast.

In other words, Hamburg-style beer bars are planned in all Soviet cities with international visitors who are in a position to pay good money (foreign exchange) for a good beer (say a German Pilsener). Right now he is supervising the finishing touches to his first bar, a former fish restaurant in the centre of Leningrad that is to be called the Chaika, or Seagull. The interior is modelled on a hall from Peter the Great's palace and furnished in north German bar decor shipped lock, stock and barrel from Hamburg.

Off to Невский проспект ... publican Drees. (Photo: dpa)

"It has to look typically north German," Drees says. But Soviet workmen are unfamiliar with the imported fixtures and fittings.

Drees, a cheerful marketing expert who says he took to catering more by coincidence than by design, says Soviet electricians and plumbers aren't used to Western wiring and ventilation systems, which has caused delays.

Problems can arise from the seemingly most insignificant details. Heating pipes are always bracketed to the plaster in the Soviet Union; it seemed impossible to duct pipes and wiring. German fitters had to be specially flown in to do the work.

Converting the premises was originally to have cost DM1.5m. It has already cost DM300,000 more and fresh delays are occurring daily.

Yet Drees remains optimistic. "We'll be open before the year is out," he says, "maybe in November. Anyone who wants to see the New Year in at the Chaika can do so; I'm already taking bookings."

The bar will seat about 170, serve a 0.4-litre glass of German beer for about four marks and wine from the Caucasus (rather than, say, the Moselle).

Customers with no foreign exchange will be unlucky to begin with. At least initially, only Western money will be accepted. Which doesn't mean, he hastens to add, that Soviet citizens will be unwelcome.

"They must simply have foreign exchange with which to pay for their beer," Drees cheerily says, adding that a fair number of people in Leningrad *do* have Western money.

He has already been authorised to serve customers who pay in roubles, but hard currency is badly needed to recoup the initial investment. So the roubles will have to wait.

From 10 a.m. to 3 a.m. customers will be served by a staff of 29, including two interpreters. These are exceptional hours in Leningrad, where everything usually closes down at 11 p.m.

The entire staff have been hired from a local catering organisation and can be replaced whenever required. "If anyone doesn't put in a hard day's work," Drees says, "we will simply send him back." So much for labour relations in the city of Peter the Great.

Hard work is already being put in to train for the great day. Drees is bringing four Soviet barmen back with him to Hamburg in October to see for themselves how a bar is run in Germany.

He plans to stay in Leningrad. He already has a two-year visa and is busy planning ahead. Next summer he hopes to sail his converted fire brigade boat from Hamburg to Leningrad and put in some sailing on the Baltic.

He also plans to learn Russian at Leningrad University. As yet about all the Russian he knows is *Na zdorov'e!* — or *Prosit!*

Helge Sobik

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 16 September 1988)



Continued from page 4

Hicom system put to the test. In discussions with Siemens representatives the staff council of the Bundestag has been told that the company attaches particular importance to the introduction of ISDN technology in the Bundestag.

"We were frankly told," says staff council chairman Volker Schumann, "that the Bundestag project was needed to make Siemens more competitive, especially in the American market."

What upsets the staff council is the urgency with which the project is being pushed through parliament and the Bundestag administration — heedless of computer ombudsmen's misgivings and, initially, in disregard of staff participation procedures.

Agreement was not reached by the Bundestag administration and the staff council until May 1987. The staff council is determined come what may to prevent Bundestag secretaries, personal assistants and research staff from being harnessed to outside interests in connection with the Parlakom project.

"We aren't going to serve as human guinea-pigs for industry," Herr Schumann says.

Dr Skarpelis-Sperk isn't keen on the idea either. At a forum arranged by Siemens she said:

"Those who have convincing solutions to offer, as opposed to technology and standard software, will be successful in other markets too, and not just because MPs are a good and countrywide advertisement for the system."

Thomas Agthe

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 16 September 1988)

■ MOTORING

Simulator sets out to find causes of accidents

A Daimler-Benz motoring simulator in Berlin, the largest and most expensive (cost: 25 million marks) in the world, has been used to test dangerous driving situations since 1984.

Its purpose is to simulate traffic situations, to gain a closer insight into road-users' behaviour and reactions and to improve road safety.

The research staff of 19 in charge of the project at the Daimler-Benz works in Marienfelde, Berlin, held open house for a week in mid-September to present the findings of four years of research to international motoring correspondents.

The backdrop to the story is the thousands of people — pedestrians, cyclists, motor-cyclists and motorists — killed and maimed annually in traffic accidents on German roads.

Last year there were just over 8,000 road deaths. The annual toll goes virtually unnoticed by public opinion. Many people seem to feel it is a price that must be paid for a mobile society.

Accident researchers disagree. Working for carmakers and others, they are engaged in a constant quest for ways of reducing road traffic risks.

They seldom have in mind the root-and-branch approach, that of giving preference to public transport, which is unquestionably safer, over the private car.

Instead they work extremely hard at improving automotive engineering, road design and driving instruction.

Accident statistics, when closer scrutinised, reveal a number of quirks that cry out to be investigated in greater detail.

Statisticians note, for instance, that about 20 per cent of serious accidents on country roads are head-on collisions.

An above-average number are tankers transporting heating oil, motor fuel or hazardous chemicals.

Thirty per cent of accidents in which this vehicle category is involved are head-on collisions. Why?

Answers to this and many other aspects of the relationship between man and machine in road traffic have been sought for years at the Marienfelde, Berlin, works of Daimler-Benz, home of the world's largest and most expensive motoring simulator.

It cost DM25m and although the benefits of the video venture cannot be quantified in marks and pfennigs the investment has more than justified the 1984 German industrial innovation award.

Take road haulage of hazardous goods, for instance, the research alternative being years of traffic observation and studies of actual accidents.

All a Berlin research project requires is about a fortnight to set up the simulator, time to choose and brief a group of suitable drivers and, of course, to evaluate the results.

Twenty experienced drivers of tankers carrying hazardous goods were put to work in a cab inside the simulator dome 7.40 metres (24ft 3in) in diameter. Their trials were supervised by Daimler-Benz's Rolf Povel.

They were told that the stress they registered during a cross-country drive was to be measured. After about 15 minutes at the wheel the computer flashed on to the screen the details of a real-life accident.

An oncoming car cornering too fast slid over the line marking the middle of the road.

Only one of the 20 test drivers was able to drive on unscathed. Two crashed, as had happened in the real-life accident, in which two people were killed.

Most drivers careered off the road to the right. In trying to avert a collision they had temporarily lost control of their vehicle as the contents of the tanker splashed to and fro.

Interviewed after the simulated crash, drivers indicated that one reason why many of them instinctively preferred to crash head-on was the fact that they knew they could easily lose control over their truck.

They drove straight on because they knew only too well that the cargo they were carrying in their tanker was dangerous.

The conclusions Daimler-Benz test engineers reached from this experiment were incorporated in the Topas experimental tanker, a project financed by the Federal government.

Sheet metal inside the tank reduces the splash effect, while precautions to prevent spillage are heightened.

This is only one example taken from a wide range of experiments already completed at the Berlin simulator.

Federal Research Minister grants have been used to test how fast and accurately drivers change lanes to steer clear of an obstacle.

Other experiments have dealt with overtaking behaviour or how drivers handle four-wheel drive or four-wheel steering.

Experiments still at the planning stage include trials to test the effect of instrumentation on safe driving, reactions to side-wind or ABS anti-blocking brake systems, behaviour in built-up areas with roads designed to slow traffic down and the influence of medicinal drugs.

None of these simulator trials is put to direct use in vehicle development or manufacture, but the findings may well affect preliminary decisions.

Trials of speed indication equipment, for instance, have shown the conventional speedometer to be quite satisfactory for continued use.

Yet when prescribed speeds were to be maintained, optical signals flashed at eye level had a clear edge over the conventional speedo, as did acoustic signals.

Findings such as these may well have an effect on instrument development.

Rolf Povel feels adapting the machine to suit the man (or woman) at the wheel is an ethical value in itself.

He dislikes the term "human failure," so often used in connection with road accidents; he prefers to refer to people being "overstrained" or "overworked."

The task automotive designers and engineers then face is that of reducing this burden on the individual.

Rudolf Hörnig, Daimler-Benz director in charge of research and technology, can envisage carmakers joining forces and sharing the cost of such a "useful device to develop aspects of transport" as a simulator or a wind tunnel.

Given the high cost, this is surely an interesting idea. But in the past, competition has ruled it out. Many motor manufacturers from all over the world, he says, have made cautious enquiries as to how much the Berlin simulator costs.

Today's price is much higher than what it cost Daimler-Benz four years ago. At the moment nothing comparable could be built for less than DM60m.

Rainer Klüting

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 15 September 1988)

On the roads, it's a dangerous country for children

Last year a child was killed or maimed on German roads every 13 minutes, say Federal Statistics Bureau figures.

For the first time ever — since these statistics were first compiled in 1953 — the number of under-15s killed in road traffic was fewer than 400.

The Wiesbaden statisticians do not see these 387 deaths as a ground for euphoria. The Federal Republic of Germany is still the most dangerous country in Europe for children on the roads, and in the first few months of this year the road toll percentage increased by double figures.

Last year's total number of people killed and injured in road traffic was down 4.3 per cent. The figure for children was a 7.9-per-cent improvement on 1986.

Last year there were exactly 40,904 road accident victims aged under 15.

As a percentage of their age group the number was also down — 7.2 per cent down — on 1986. But it is still much higher than the figures reported by comparable European countries.

In Germany the toll was 455 per 100,000 under-15s. The figure for Britain was 396, for France 222, for the Netherlands 195 and for Greece a mere 105.

Roughly 32,800 of the 41,000, or 8 out of 10, were killed or injured in built-up areas. They came to grief mainly as pedestrians (40 per cent) or as cyclists (38 per cent).

Outside built-up areas children were mainly (71 per cent) involved in accidents as passengers in motor vehicles.

Comparison by age shows the accident risk to increase as children grow older — and spend more time on their own outdoors.

Forty-one per cent of children killed or injured on German roads last year were 10- to 14-year-olds. A further third were six to nine years old.

Boys are more accident-prone than girls, doubtless also due to boys being out and about more than girls. There were 529 boys killed or injured per 100,000 under-15s, as against 376 girls.

The percentage of pedestrian victims, roughly 33, is about the same for both sexes. But boys are hit more often as cyclists (41 per cent), as against the 23 per cent killed or injured as passengers in motor vehicles.

Thirty-six per cent of girls killed or injured on German roads are car passengers and only one in four is a cyclist, while in all age groups about 60 per cent of children killed or inbjured are boys.

Figures for the first four months of 1988 indicate that there will be no repeat of last year's encouraging trend.

In keeping with the accident figures for other age groups the Federal Statistics Bureau has registered a double-digit increase in the number of children killed or maimed on German roads so far this year.

AP

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 September 1988)



■ PHOTOGRAPHY

Showing why it's not all about f-stops and apertures

Photographers and other champions of photography spent years battling to free the art from its reputation of being merely a matter of technical skill.

It was a reputation based on the uses of photography: scientific research, advertising, journalism, and worst of all, souvenir pictures taken by amateurs.

It seems that the battle has been well and truly won: art societies and museums as prestigious as the Getty Museum in California promote photography the art.

Important photographers from the past such as Man Ray or Herbert Bayer are significant figures in the history of art.

Photographic gallery enterprises are financially and artistically successful.

In short, since Andy Warhol, contemporary painting has surrendered to the photographic arts. For a long time now there has been no doubt that photography is an art.

The Cologne exhibition *Zeitprofile* storms a bastion that was conquered long ago; even if the exhibition shows that photography can be art, even great art of the 20th century.

But this exhibition, mounted in the rooms of the Ludwig Museum, treats the objects of its admiration so unkindly that it leaves the visitor with an unhappy feeling.

Perhaps the ambience of this most important exhibition of pictures before the *Photokina* Fair this month is also too complex.

Zeitprofile is a display of works awarded the German Society for Photography prize over the past 30 years.

This year it was given to the American William Klein, whose exaggerated pictures of sorrowful grotesqueness can be seen at the exhibition's entrance.

This prize heralded the renewed self-confidence of the brotherhood of photographers, and it was without any doubt one of the important impulses for coming to grips with the new demands confronting photography.

Precautions were taken against artistic hypocrisy by giving the prize not only to active photographers but also to men from research, science and the media generally.

Photography is a subjective, artistic form of expression and at the same time something technical, commercial and for publication.

A second, pleasant, instructive section of the exhibition is devoted to this group of research, scientific and media prize-winners, just a step away in the gallery of the Wallraf Richartz Museum.

The main focus of interest in this exhibition is naturally on the photographers themselves. The German Society for Photography can inscribe in its record of prize-winners an extremely impressive list of names.

It includes Herbert Bayer and Man Ray, Heinz Hajek-Halke and Chargesheimer, Henri Cartier-Bresson and Herbert Eisenstaedt, Felix H. Man, Hilmar Pabel and Jacques-Henri Lartigue, and portrait photographers such as Rosemairie Clausen, Gisèle Freund, Irving Penn. August Sander and Liselotte Strelow were also given the award, as were sophisticated stylists such as Eliot Porter, Reinhart Wolf, Albert Renger-Patzsch, Otto Steinert and the Becher man-and-wife team.

Hardly one of the prize-winner names causes astonishment today, with the exception, perhaps, of the group of prize-winners under the heading "photographic aesthetics."

In the work of photographers such as Emil Schulthess, Charlotte March or Regina Relang it can clearly be seen that the photographic ideal is subject to prevailing fashions just as in the other arts.

The Cologne exhibition achieves its goal if it is meant to highlight the fact that the German Society for Photography, through its prize, has done some good work and had a beneficial effect.

But if the exhibition's aim is to display the works of these photographers in an adequate milieu, one has to re-consider.

In the first place anyone who tries to do justice to so many different artists will satisfy no-one.

The selection of works from each photographer had to be so limited that only a cursory impression is given and only rarely is a photographer's typical output revealed.

A broad insight into a photographer's work has only been achieved in the case of a few extreme specialists such as Rosemarie Clausen or Gisèle Freund.

The pictures are displayed on the walls close together, without consideration and miserably. The poor lighting does not help and belittles the artistic character of the works. Whoever made the mistake of thinking that photographic pictures must be displayed "neutrally" or "objectively," did not consider sufficiently that photography is the most magical of all the arts.

Then the exhibition's organisation into themes such as "Experiments," "Photojournalism" or "Portraiture" returns photography to the point from which it broke away — defining it by the purposes to which it is put.

For this reason the visitor should just keep to the photographs themselves: Felix H. Man's famous picture in Mussolini's study overlooking the Palazzo Venezia, where the Duce becomes a dwarf in front of the fascist backdrop. Or Eisenstaedt's Marilyn Monroe portrait, her eyelids and weary mouth giving a presentiment of the Big Sleep. Or Thomas Höpker's nameless US marine whose shaven head and freckled face with its meaningless cry from his gaping mouth, taken in 1964, giving some idea of what was being concocted in Vietnam. Or Man Ray's "Violon d'Ingres" together with "Glustrainen," incunabula of photography certainly. This exhibition is a flood of pictures from the past few decades. They are from various angles of vision and by masters of the photographic art. This exhibition cannot avoid making a comment about the epoch in which these pictures originated. In the end a profile of a century of photography emerges from it.

Eugen Bichterer

(Die Welt, Bonn, 20 September 1988)





Zeitprofile faces. Oskar Kokoschka, captured by Liselotte Strelow, 1955; and (right) Pablo Picasso, a 1957 Irving Penn photograph. (Photos: Catalogue)

Blown-up hairy legs march against insipid advertising

Men's legs everywhere, almost a dozen of them, all of them three metres high.

They are featured in sharp, black-and-white pictures created by photographer Balthasar Burkhard. Hirsute male limbs.

Usually the square format generally used for run-of-the-mill, blown-up billboard advertising tends to annoy. Not here.

Twenty international photographers seem to have declared war on insipid advertising design with their huge photographs.

That is the impression the visitor to the Rheinische Landesmuseum in Bonn gets. The museum is staging the touring exhibition *Blow-up*, and Bonn is the last chance to see it.

What in the media is merely boring here possesses an artistic quality. The witty arrangement of the huge photographs is obviously to the public's taste.

Critical clashes with our visual reality are clearly detectable — for instance, when the German-Yugoslav man-and-wife team Ulay and Marina Abramovic confront the silhouette of an Egyptian god with Micky Mouse's head.

Between them there are two just as large monochrome plaques: the viewer is called upon to complete from his imagination the development of these two symbols, loaded with fetishism, from different periods in history.

In a dual sense of photographic realism Günther Förg draws closer to photographically produced reality with coolness.

His life-size glance through the doors of the architecturally sober Villa Wittgenstein in Vienna gives a sense of irritation with space, as does the viewer's reflection from the glass mounting on the photograph.

Here the expression "aesthetics of effect" gains a quite concrete meaning. It was no accident that Förg placed next to the photograph a mirror of the same size.

For years Cindy Sherman from America has produced an ever-changing series of photographs of her own body.

For the *Blow-up* exhibition she selected ugly clothing. She says she is "mistress in my own picture," displaying the autonomy of her artistic personality and her fierce battle against the world of beautiful appearances.

Clegg and Guttmann present brilliant, sharply gleaming ossifications of flashy members of the educated classes, people in a tasteful ambience in front of the piano or at a table covered with tomes.

This parody of arty characters is photographed mainly with just a backdrop.

The Canadian Evergon composes, homo-erotic, pseudo-Greek baccanalia, including putti and Pan.

Nevertheless one is never left in doubt that he is satirically exaggerating the worn-out cliché of the chambre separée.

There are pictures of considerable quality from Rudolf Bonvie, Katharina Sieverding, Christian Boltanski, Boyd Webb and Astrid Klein.

But there is a feeling of anger at the bombastic, voyeuristic scenes from a Nazi brothel, replete with props, produced by the Finnish photographer Hatty van Zak who works in New York.

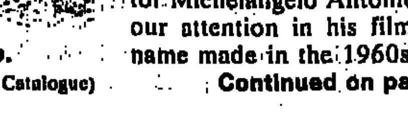
Here we can be indignant about the wide-screen format — and still look at what is on display.

Blow-up is an expression that director Michelangelo Antonioni brought to our attention in his film of the same name made in the 1960s, although the

Continued on page 14







A Barbara Kruger (USA) exhibit in *Blow-up*. (Photo: Catalogue)

■ LITERATURE

Günter Grass writes about days in India

Günter Grass lived in India from August 1986 until January last year, mainly in Calcutta.

He went to Asia because of his aversion to political and social life in the Federal Republic.

He also had come to loathe the "subtle shallow thinking of the onetime left-wingers, now just smart feature writers." They have not written favourably about his latest long novel, *Lady Rat*.

Grass evaded all this irksomeness while, as a "disgruntled traveller," he was seeking a confrontation with a foreign, confusing world.

Because Grass is a writer, a book has come out of his Indian travels. It describes his discomforts in a climate he was not used to, the shock of the poverty on the streets of Calcutta, and his sense of helplessness faced with an alien culture.

Grass felt himself to be at the same time both involved with the crowds of people and excluded from them.

"At everyone's mercy, everyone and everything so close, because skin rubs up against skin, sweat mixes with sweat. People gaped at us everywhere, and yet we remained alien everywhere: distance and proximity lost their meaning."

In most of the book, a kind of travelogue, Grass's respect for his spiritual home, Europe, is emphatically visible.

***Zunge zeigen*, by Günter Grass. Luchterhand Literaturverlag, Darmstadt. 240 pp with 56 illustrations by the author. DM48.**

He writes about his reading of Lichtenberg, Schopenhauer, Canetti and Thomas Mann.

His wife read Fontane, which brings Grass to the curious idea to select this author as his fictitious companion during his stay in India.

This leads to any number of forced, tortuous connections between Prussia, London and India.

Grass is self-critical and writes openly about his experiences but he does not escape entirely from the postures of the German tourist in the Far East.

Occasionally he complains about the lack of cleanliness at the college toilets, then he carps about the service.

"The tourist lodge, a government enterprise, where we wash and — with slack service — eat fish, rice and lentil soup... awakens memories of the East Bloc."

His inclination to indulge in aesthetics about the poverty he sees shows that Grass was not able to get outside himself as a European man of letters.

He seriously believed he could play off the beauty of the Indian slums against the barren polish of the capitalist world.

He wrote that one would like "to place a single slum shack, faithfully, as poverty has ordained it, next to the glass arrogance of the Deutsche Bank. Beauty would be on the side of the shack, and truth and even the future: for the glass art of these palaces devoted to money will fall on its knees, while the slum shack will always be there tomorrow."

He sees in these miserable, poor, patched-together homes a "last possible beauty" that questions "everything that is recognised as being beautiful."

The effects of the last stirrings of once carefully-preserved socialist conviction are obvious in this aesthetic romanticising.

For a long time the poverty in Bengal, where the communists have been in government for years, has defied all the hopes of left-wing politicians.

Also the technical concepts of development aid helpers seem to be a failure to Grass and are condemned.

In Indian cities, he observed, "what was built up disintegrates immediately; plans only half implemented result in chaos."

Experiences of this sort do not induce Grass to see social outrage in poverty and hunger, that must be explained economically and fought against politically.

Poverty seems to him to be much more a natural, unalterable factor

In a crowd of unemployed people he saw "humility in a situation, regarded as normal, like the weather. As soon as such a group squats under a banyan tree, the group looks quite natural, like the exposed roots of the tree."

Grass tries to hint at his irritation and helplessness in the face of India's realities, while he makes Kali, the goddess particularly honoured in Bengal, the key figure of his experiences.

According to mythology she is wild and cruel. She beheads people in unrestrained frenzy. She suddenly has to be stopped, when she turns her lethal sickle against her husband Shiva, and has to show her tongue as a sign of her shame.

Even though this shame might illuminate a remnant of human hope, for Grass the black goddess is inevitably a symbol of the cruelty and the blind fatality of Indian history. He looks for the

Continued on page 14



Involved with the crowds but excluded . . . Günter Grass. (Photo: Werek)

A coming together of minds: the day Goethe met Schiller

7 September 1788 was a momentous date in German literary history. Goethe met Schiller for the first time.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832) was then a senior government official and confidant of his prince.

Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805) was a young playwright without a regular income.

Goethe, who had lived in Weimar for 13 years, was surrounded even then with the nimbus of a prince of poets.

He enjoyed not only the admiration and recognition of his fellow countrymen, but his fame had extended far beyond Germany.

Schiller, 10 years young, was already regarded as a literary great. The première of his *Die Räuber* in Mannheim six years previously had been a triumph.

After the curtain went down on the first performance the applause was indescribable. The audience stamped its feet with enthusiasm and women swooned, reported the critics.

Since then Schiller had been the talk of the town in Mannheim and beyond. *Die Verschwörung des Fiesko zu Genua*, *Don Carlos* and *Kabale und Liebe* had been performed.

In 1787, after two years in Leipzig, he followed his friend Christian Gottfried Körner, father of the poet Theodor Körner, to Weimar, filled with high hopes of the "Weimar giants." Schiller's genius had been praised everywhere but not by Goethe.

Goethe was then very much under the influence of his Italian journey. He had just returned from Italy, a changed man.

The experiences of his journey had brought him closer to his humanist ideals of truth, beauty and goodness. He did not feel himself to be ready for the wild, inflammatory poetic art, that Schiller was displaying, and certainly not for the mass enthusiasm which *Die Räuber* had unleashed.

It was said that he felt himself to be disgusted with it. *Don Carlos*, a more mature work with the much-quoted demand of the Marquis Posa, "Sire, give them freedom of thought," had not made him change his mind.

But it was also clear to Schiller himself that the applause of the masses was no proof of quality. He himself said: "Do it less correctly, it is a bad thing to please too much."

It is certain that a word of encouragement from Goethe would have pleased him more and encourged him in his work than the plaudits of the crowd.

So the attempt was made to bring these contrasting men with poetic natures together. The plan was cooked up and a meeting carefully arranged in Rudolstadt, not far from Weimar, in the home of a family with whom both poets were on friendly terms.

Charlotte von Lengefeld, Schiller's bride, had placed a copy of her betrothed's *Götter Griechenlands* on a table at which Privy Councillor Goethe would be invited to sit down.

Naturally she knew that the famous guest saw his poetic ideals in the art of the Ancient Greeks.

She also thought that perhaps the ideas about the Greeks they had in common would be something they could talk about.

But, despite all this planning, the rendezvous that lasted an hour turned out to be a disappointment on both sides. Their farewells were frosty.

The encounter only increased Goethe's rejection of Schiller, and Schiller knew it.

In a letter to his friend Körner he spoke of his love-hate for Goethe, which was the result of this encounter.

Schiller wrote: "Goethe's philosophy gets too much from the material world, which I get from the soul...To be with Goethe too often would make me very unhappy.

"I believe that he is in fact an egoist to an extraordinary degree. He has the ability to fetter people to him and by paying attention to them to a small or great degree he makes them obliged to him."

Schiller was annoyed with Goethe who could be charming and captivating with everyone but could always maintain his independence.

Schiller wrote that Goethe was "like a god, without giving anything of himself — this appears to me to be a consistent and systematic method of procedure aimed entirely at satisfying to the utmost his own self-love.

"I hate him completely although at the same time I love his spirit with all my heart and think him great.

"I look on him as a haughty, prudish woman, whom one wants to get with child, to humiliate him before the world."

It was fundamentally an unfortunate encounter then? Not entirely.

Through Goethe's good services Schiller was later offered a professorship at Jena. Nevertheless they avoided one another because both believed the other did not like him.

Until one day, six years later, when a small miracle occurred.

Both had attended a natural science lecture. Both chatted together for a while about the lecturer. They talked about Goethe's botany interests and suddenly they both felt that they understood one another. The ice was broken.

Affection hesitantly grew out of previous distaste, and there began, what no-one had never believed possible, a happy, fruitful period of friendship.

Goethe wrote to Schiller: "You have given me my second youth and again made a poet out of me."

Schiller said to his friends: "I owe Goethe a lot and I know that I have had a fortunate influence on him."

When the younger man died before him, Goethe said he had lost the other half of his life.

Eleonore Bauer

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 17 September 1988)

Mates again: Goethe (left) and Schiller both discovered after years of chill that the other wasn't such a bad fellow after all. (Photos: dpa)

■ CAREERS

Too many doctors for too few patients and the training isn't much, either

It is becoming more and more difficult to qualify as a doctor. Students must first qualify for a place at medical school — and places are limited.

Then they take a make-or-break intermediate exam after four semesters, followed by three-part finals after their sixth and tenth semesters and their year's internship.

On top of that, they are required to spend a further 18 months as a trainee (and traineeships are few and far between) before qualifying as fully-fledged novice doctors.

That still leaves them with years of specialised training to qualify either as a general practitioner or as a specialist -- again if they find somewhere to train. In the end, the question must be: is it all worth the effort?

The first hurdle is medical college entry restrictions. It may be cleared by means of tests, interviews, years spent on waiting-lists or, perhaps most easily, by first-rate university entrance exam grades.

Rumour has it that many a school-leaver with a first-rate *Abitur*, or university entrance exam, grade decides to study medicine merely because he feels obliged by his grade to do so.

Yet students with first-rate grades might be better qualified to dissect white mice than to treat patients.

This line of argument will surely continue to hold good, since grades are merely an indication of intelligence rather than, say, of ability to treat patients as people.

But fewer school-leavers are applying for places at medical school. The number of applicants has declined by a quarter within a year.

For one, there are more discouraging, even appalling, reports about medical training.

For another, a career in medicine no longer seems to be the bed of roses it was a few years ago.

Conditions at medical school have a reputation for being bad in Germany, and for failing to reach their target of qualifying a medical graduate to treat patients on his own.

Hans Schaefer, one of the grand old men of German medicine, wrote back in 1979 in his *Plädoyer für eine neue Medizin* (The Case for a New Medicine) that medical training in Germany had reached a level that no longer bore any comparison with the classical countries of medical progress, Britain, Scandinavia and North America.

The situation has since, if anything, gone from bad to worse.

The medical student can be compared with an explorer travelling along a river in the jungle on board a boat that has been filled with perishable supplies: he or she is given the wherewithal to survive instead of having been equipped to fish and hunt to survive on his or her own in the wilds.

This picturesque comparison was once drawn by Profesor Hannes Pauli, head of the training research department at Berne University medical faculty, Switzerland.

He feels a good half of the fast-outmoded knowledge young medics learn by rote to pass multiple-choice tests that have much in common with crossword puzzles could readily be jettisoned.

In the time gained by throwing this ballast over board students ought to be taught how to solve realistic medical problems and to gain knowledge and attain skills and medical viewpoints that are of daily use in treating patients, not to mention in the lifelong process of learning.

The reality looks somewhat different. The 1970 reform of the medical school curriculum failed to reform a course of study that continues to be run very much along school lines.

Training in basic subjects, including science and the social sciences (which are still given short shrift and inadequately incorporated in the course), is still limited to the first four semesters.

It is not interlocked with medical studies in the stricter sense of the term, which run from the fifth to the tenth semester.

This section of the course is known in German as the "clinical" section, which merely means "illness-related."

It need not mean that the doctor-to-be is taught how to diagnose and treat complaints in the context of bona fide patients, let alone that patients are seen as a physical and social entity.

Little has come of the in-house training in hospital wards envisaged in the 1970 curriculum, partly because university hospitals are full to overflowing with medical students.

When the new curriculum was approved in 1970 there were 6,000 first-year medical students a year. Now, despite strict entrance restrictions, there are 12,000 a year and nearly 100,000 medical students in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Practical training is all too often limited to blackboard treatment — without patients. There simply aren't enough patients in teaching hospitals who are suitable, ready and able to be examined by one medical student after another.

As for research on the basis of bona fide patients, such as research for an MD thesis, a young medic is best advised to forget the idea.

Wolfgang Picker-Huchzermeyer from Hanover arrived at an imaginative but once-only solution to this problem. He wrote his thesis about the shortage of patients.

What is more, students are taught to treat the few patients with unusual or serious complaints who are undergoing treatment at their teaching hospital.

They are not prepared for everyday life and patients who "don't feel at all well, doctor" or are chronically ill or suffer from age-related and psychosomatic complaints.

Doctors-to-be are "wrongly programmed," writes Tübingen anatomist Professor Michael Arnold in his book *Der Arztberuf* (The Medical Profession), an extremely useful "introduction to the study and problems of medicine for tomorrow's doctor."

This accounts for the growing dissatisfaction felt by patients and doctors — and for the unwarrantedly high cost of the health service.

Yet instead of embarking on a thorough reform of the curriculum the authorities have added a further 18 months to the initial internship, a measure described by experts as hopelessly makeshift. It is a matter of luck if enough practical experience is gainedat this unstructured stage or if the student merely tags along with the rest.

After qualification, will find that a doctor's life is not the glamorous life it may have seemed.

It is not for idealists. Doctors whose main aim is to help and to cure are already hamstrung by red tape and cash limits.

The more doctors there are, the fewer fees there are to go round.

Patients have also grown more critical. The doctor is no longer a "demigod".

Is he destined to join the ranks of the academic proletariat? Last year 6,500 doctors were registered as unemployed. The true number is likelier to be about 15,000, mainly beginners.

The outlook is particularly gloomy for female graduates. One doctor in four is a woman, but women account for 50 per cent of unemployed medics.

Year by year 11,000 medical students graduate — 6,000 more than needed. Those with extra qualifications — psychology or data processing, say, have the best job chances.

Training a doctor costs an estimated DM350,000 or so. A general practitioner accounts for annual costs of between DM1.5m and DM1.7m.

The number of medical services he provides can be extended indefinitely. Like gardening or housework, it never ends.

You can always find something more to examine and something more to treat. Many will wonder whether the costly waste of resources due to overproduction of medical graduates can still be warranted.

Rosemarie Stein

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 September 1988)

Asian languages in demand, but more is needed

Foreign languages improve job prospects — especially the more widely spoken of the Asian languages. But languages alone are not enough.

English and French are taken for granted in a world where markets are becoming increasingly international.

But a career grounding or at least an interest in economic affairs is also needed to attract employers in industry and banking.

Axel Osenberg, personal manager of Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt, says young people employers need today are those "who realise that success means performance and who have a practical, common-sense attitude."

He was speaking in a platform debate on "Asian Studies — And Then?" held by the German Asian Studies Society, Hamburg.

At present 5,600 students in the Federal Republic of Germany are studying Sinology and 3,400 Japanology.

Many students are studying Asian studies of one kind or another. Will so many experts ever be needed?

One point is clear. Students who opt for Asian studies have chosen a subject — and a part of the world — that is growing steadily more important for Europe.

In 1960 Asia's share of the gross international product was a mere 11 per cent. By 1980 its share had increased to 19.5 per cent.

Between 1960 and 1984 Asia's share of world exports increased from 12 to 17 per cent. That is why Deutsche Bank has lately hired a growing number of Chinese and Japanese studies graduates.

The bank employs 4,700 trainees in Germany. Jointly with chambers of commerce and industry it also employs trainees at some branches overseas.

In Asia, for instance, there are Deutsche Bank trainees in Tokyo and Djakarta. Their exam results are accepted by German chambers of commerce and industry just as if they had sat their banking exams in Germany.

The bank also employs graduate trainees. At the end of 1986 there were 286 members of the bank's staff with this status. Most (64 per cent) were economics graduates, 17 per cent law graduates and 19 per cent "miscellaneous."

Last year's miscellany included 14 graduates in Chinese and Japanese studies.

Herr Osenberg: "We feel we need not only more Sinologists and Japanologists. We also need young members of staff who speak Korean, Malay, Indonesian and Hindi."

Other qualities expected are mobility and a high degree of initiative, commitment, readiness to learn and ability to make contacts.

So graduate trainees ought not just to speak one or two Asian languages; they should also have a grounding in other disciplines, not to mention a number of personal qualifications.

A trainee banker must also have, as an absolute essential, a knowledge of economics or business studies, or at least be interested in economic affairs.

The Foreign Office too plans to hire more staff with Asian studies qualifications. Future diplomats must measure up to exacting standards.

They must not just be fluent in English and French; they must also have a grounding in the fundamentals of history, in international relations and in international law.

The 1971 commission set up to look into a reform of the foreign service decided that trainees must be recruited and trained in accordance with new criteria.

The traditional preponderance of law graduates among attachés must, it felt, be reduced and staff with a wider range of qualifications be inducted.

The commission also called for training courses that were more geared to practical requirements.

Heinrich Kreft, former personnel officer at the Foreign Office, told the debate that action has been taken on both counts: "Despite all the changes there is still room for people qualified in general studies."

Staff with legal training could no longer be said to monopolise the foreign service. In the early 1970s they accounted for between 70 and 80 per cent of new staff; their share has since declined to about 40 per cent.

Their place has mainly been taken by a growing number of trainee diplomats with philological, or language, qualifications.

Asian studies graduates qualify for a senior grade career in the foreign service. But lawyers, economists and historians had been found usually to be better prepared for the foreign service's selection procedures, Herr Kreft said.

Asian studies graduates tended to make the grade when they had not limited themselves to Asia. A grounding in economics, history and international law was essential for all applicants.

So students who were considering

Continued on page 13

■ BEHAVIOUR

Both sides of the brain need exercising

Past masters of logical thinking such as Albert Einstein seem not to have been "lefties," as usedto be assumed.

Einstein is known to have given the *right*-hand side of his brain plenty to do by virtue of his skill as a violin virtuoso.

Some scientists even feel he developed his theory of relativity on the right-hand, or intuitive, side of his brain, then merely noted the (logical) formula on the left-hand side.

Since the mid-19th century certain parts of the cerebral cortex have been known to relate to or handle specific functions of the human body.

Damage to a specific part of the brain was invariably found to result in a breakdown of the abilities associated with that particular part of the cortex.

A detailed map has since been drawn, showing which parts of the cerebrum are in charge of which part of the system.

Research scientists have also found the two halves of the brain to be roughly responsible for specific categories of activity.

The left-hand side analyses and processes logical problems and is the side that handles rational deliberation and speech processing.

The right-hand side is in charge of intuition, creativity and musical skills, plus the emotions, including personal relationships.

They have even identified microanatomical distinctions. On the left-hand side of the brain nerve endings are closer together, meaning links are closer than on the right-hand side.

The first congress on cerebral dominance held to deal in detail with this division of labour in the brain was convened by Claus H. Bick, president of the International Cerebral Dominance Society, in Munich.

Special importance was attached to practical applications of scientific findings.

Nearly everyone knows that many problems to do with pure logic, or tasks handled by the left-hand half of the brain, defy solution.

Intuition and creativity, as typical activities of the right-hand side of the cerebrum, are at least equally important.

Brain research scientists thus feel that the brain can only be put to optimum use if both halves are suitably coordinated.

Modern management training is accordingly aimed at making both halves equally active and amenable to coordination, this being seen as the way to ensure peak creative activity, including both logic and intuition.

That, says Frank Peschanel of the Peak Performance Institute, Unterwössen, is partly why integration of both halves of the brain can help to reduce stress.

Youth sects were a topic dealt with in this connection at the Munich congress.

At a seminar chaired by Rev. Friedrich W. Haack, the Bavarian Protestant Church's expert on sects and ideologies, general information about the problems sects cause was mainly accompanied by a medical and scientific examination of their origins.

The reason why young people were particularly prone to fall for religious and ideological persuaders is, Bick said, the general "left-handedness" of society today.

What he meant was the the left-hand, or rational and logically-minded half of the brain is mainly used to handle relations between man and his environment.

International probes of electrical activity in the brain have indeed shown that the left-hand side of the cerebrum is used far more often than the right-hand side.

Educating children is mainly a matter of encouraging this left-hand side of the brain too. There was, he said, no lack of computer games and technical education — as against a lack of loving care and attention, both of which were mainly handled by the right-hand side of the brain.

He felt the small family typical of modern living tended to have a disastrous effect in this connection.

In the larger, extended family of old a child was always able to find someone with whom it enjoyed a close and reassuringly comfortable relationship.

When parents in today's small families failed in this respect there was next to no-one to whom a child could turn, which was why development of the right-hand side of the brain tended to be neglected.

Children who have grown up in circumstances such as these are bound to be particularly susceptible to the blandishments of people or organisations that promise to meet their need for human warmth.

In the long term, Bick said, gurus and ideologists could only succeed in gaining a foothold and totally supplanting reason and common sense in next to no time among people who had literally been educated onesidedly, with the emphasis entirely on the left-hand side of their brain.

Martin Thum

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 22 September 1988)

Facing the expressions of life: smile, if you can

Anywhere in the world when a girl who ispaid a compliment both smiles embarrassedly and turns up her nose, she suspects the speaker of ulterior motives.

And someone who smiles a smile that doesn't extend to the cheeks is making a pretence of being friendly and isn't necessarily serious.

These and similar findings are the results of extensive studies of facial mimicry by Max Planck research scientists specialising in human ethology.

Their findings should help to improve psychiatric diagnosis and tests of how effective treatment is.

Professor Irenäus Eibl-Eibesfeldt, head of human ethology at the Max Planck Research Institute in Seewiesen, Bavaria, has roughly 300,000 metres of film taken of people of all races in a wide range of situations.

His staff have spent 150 hours sitting in front of mirrors pulling faces at themselves and feeling the muscles that were put to use in the process.

Using video technology and new methods of quantification a basic vocabulary of mimicry has been compiled in this way.

Despite its variety the language of the face is easier to learn and easier to describe than that of gesture, which also forms part of what is known as non-verbal communication but is three-dimensional due to the joints in the hand and arm.

Twenty-three muscles mainly account for facial mimicry. Swedish anatomist Carl-Herman Hjortsjo describes them as a "neuro-muscular functional unit" and has devised a "muscular code system."

Research scientists specialising in social behaviour have now been able to detail precisely and describe objectively all the fine and fleeting movements in the "muscular interface of the emotions."

They have come to realise that facial language is based, irrespective of cultural borders, on simple items of "vocabulary" that evidently accompany us from the cradle to the grave.

Eyebrows briefly raised are a sign of greeting. Eyebrows raised slowly and for a longer period signify scepticism and suspicion.

All over the world upturned corners of the mouth are seen as a friendly facial gesture, just as downturned corners of the mouth are taken to stand for sorrow and disappointment.

The upturned nose, triggered by a specific muscular unit, is mainly triggered by an unpleasant smell.

When someone also bares his teeth he is clearly disgusted with the person in question.

People who snort, or breathe air audibly through their noses, are said to be in an erotic mood. The experts have also identified a two-faced combination of pleasure and disgust.

Research scientists have come up with interesting surmises as to the origins of this facial language. Laughter, for instance, may be due to the baby's "ready to suckle" signal

A friendly, winsome smile may arguably be attributable to the "whistling in the dark" category of grin, the kind still seen, for instance, on the face of a speaker who has suddenly lost the thread of what he was saying.

This muscular expression may even be a forerunner of speech. Many a monosyllable such as "ah," "oh" or "ee" is closely interlinked with mimicry.

These may have been primal syllables, as it were.

Seewiesen ethologist Wulf Schiefenhövel notes another phenomenal discovery made in the course of his institute's experiments.

"When we pulled a sad face," he says, "we definitely felt a little sad too."

The faces he and his associates made were also found to be reflected in their heartbeat, skin temperature and skin resistance.

These findings are now to undergo closer scrutiny at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry in Munich.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 22 September 1988)

Continued from page 12

trying for the foreign service ought not to limit themselves to philological or philosophical courses.

They would also do well not to overspecialise, he said. Students who had concentrated on a specific issue for years were found to have difficulty in handling unaccustomed issues outside the narrow purview of their speciality.

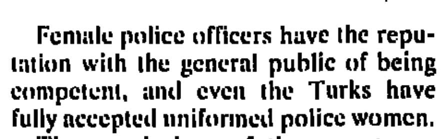
To offset this risk the German Society for Asian Studies recommends spending several months in the country in question.

Sibylle Haas

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 September 1988)

■ HORIZONS

Riot-squad Rosita calls the tune with water cannon





Raised Bavarian eyebrows . . Rosita Rogsch.

Rosita Rogsch is 39. Since April, she has led a Berlin riot squad. She is a charming and handsome woman who caused something of a surprise in Bavaria this month.

She had been invited with a group of Berlin police officers to Munich for an official function to thank them for their services. They had been called in to handle riots at Wackersdorf, site of a Bavarian nuclear power station.

In Bavaria, and some other *Länder* as well, there are no women policemen. But here was one who, in addition, was not only in a riot squad, but was the leader of it. Berlin is a centre of dissent, and this often spills over into street violence.

Frau Rogsch said the Bavarians were amazed at her. It was as if "I were the Berlin bear itself" (the bear is Berlin's symbol.)

In April, Frau Rogsch graduated with two other women from an advanced training course for special duties.

Gudrun Albach-Weise, 34, was appointed to head the training department at a police school and Rita König, 40, heads another special duties squad at Kreuzberg, the Berlin suburb which sees a lot of the trouble with left-wing groups.

The three are due to complete their probationary periods next month, after which they will be confirmed as superintendents. This means that, for the first time ever, there will be women among the senior police officers in Berlin.

There used to be women in the Bavarian police as well — until the early post-war years. Women did respond to calls by the Allies in 1947 to join up, but as the soldiers (male) drifted back from prisoner-of-war camps, they were given priority and the women were allocated more conventional (from a male point of view) jobs. These early police women were called "the Wasps." They, just like their male colleagues, were given civil-service status in 1953, but only after efforts had been made to get them to give up ideas of making careers in the police.

Women had to wait longer for promotion; they disappeared into desk jobs or were pushed aside to dull posts.

The pinnacle of professional discrimination was reached when they were sent on cookery courses in 1961 so they would be able to cook for their male colleagues in emergencies.

Only 12 of the "Wasps" remained when the first 28 women traffic wardens were taken on by the uniformed police force.

At the beginning women were only taken on for the police force in Berlin and Hamburg. But in the meantime several other federal states have followed the Berlin-Hamburg example.

Rosita Rogsch and Rita König were among the women who were traffic wardens in 1978. Both were married and had left their jobs for the sake of their sons.

Rosita Rogsch had been a secretary. Rita König had been an office clerk.

When they were taken on as traffic wardens the prospect was opened up for them of being taken on in active police work, a prospect that appealed to them both.

Rita König was looking for a change and "contact with people" when she tried to get into the police. Rosita Rogsch was married to a crime squad officer and as a consequence was familiar with the police service.

Until a few weeks ago women were only taken on for the Berlin police service when they were at least 19. Males, on the other hand, can be taken on at 16.

This age restriction on women has been lifted by the Berlin police due to concern about recruiting young people for the service.

In the main training for men and women is the same. Ten years ago Rosita Rogsch and Rita König went through a training course separated from their male colleagues. For some time this division has been done away with and training is now integrated, but the women are given separate accommodation, of course.

During and after training the demands made on men and women are the same. The only differences are in the weapons training programme and in sports. Women are excluded from boxing and training in the use of automatic weapons.

At the beginning women were not expected to do all things that were expected of male police cadets, but this provide to be completely unnecessary.

In the 1985 review of police affairs, produced by the Berlin authorities, the women did extraordinarily well.

The report, according to Berlin's spokesman for internal affairs, Hans F. Birkenbeul, still holds good. It claimed that the women put in a better performance than the men.

The report stated that with their patience, their empathy and ability to convince they had contributed to defusing many critical situations. Women also contributed to a better atmosphere in police units.

Female police officers have the reputation with the general public of being competent, and even the Turks have fully accepted uniformed police women.

The conclusions of the report, according to Birkenbeul: "It is impossible to think of the uniformed police without women police officers."

Women were first admitted into specialised units in 1984. Berlin's uniformed police force is made up of 20,000 of which 570 are currently women and 132 of them are in specialised units.

Rosita Rogsch likes to compare their work with the deployment of the fire-brigade at the location of a fire.

She said that these police women were needed at parades, demonstrations and major events where large areas had to be cordoned off.

The duties of the various units are divided into four sections: a section responsible for making arrests, two ordinary sections and the "heavy-duty" section. These specialised units are known best of all by the general public from their deployment in demonstrations.

A senior police officer once said that "women were a secret weapon for the police," because demonstrators, prone to violence, reacted differently to women than they would to men.

The police like to exploit this experience when areas have to be cordoned off. During the anti-President Reagan demonstrations in Berlin in June last year women were to the forefront in police cordons.

An observer of the left-wing in the Kreuzberg district of Berlin said that "there was nothing so disarming as a woman in uniform."

For this reason Rosita Rogsch has suggested that a trial should be made of using an all-female unit against a demonstration. In her view women can keep people prone to violence in check and have a soothing affect on them.

But while young men are prepared to be led away by women police officers, women rowdies react more violently against women in uniform.

Rita König said that one hard-core left-wing militant in Kreuzberg said to her that emancipation did not mean putting women into the uniformed police.

Over the past few years male police officers have got used to women doing the same training courses as themselves and standing with them shoulder to shoulder when a police cordon is thrown up.

Contribution to emancipation . . . Rita König. (Photos: Paul Glaser)

But many policemen see difficulties when women are in positions of command.

Rosita Rogsch and Rita König continuously come up against a fundamental conviction, held by some men, that women should not be in the police force.

Since she has been head of a section Rita König said that she was aware of a kind of restraint.

She said: "It is accepted among men that those get to the top who prove themselves to be the best, but there is a different attitude as regards women."

During training they were reproached with remarks such as: "You will get through the examinations anyway."

But of eight women candidates only three passed the final examination.

Rita König also believes that a woman superior is criticised more than a man would be. She said: "Either you are one hundred per cent good at the job or you are nothing."

But all in all Rosita Rogsch and Rita König believe that their male colleagues give them a fair chance and their superiors accept them.

Rosita Rogsch said that it was a great job being a women police officer. "It's my contribution to female emancipation," she said.

Rita König would like to head the Kreuzberg police section, but she has recently got to know that her male colleagues do not regard her as a colleague pure and simple but, behind her back, call her "Mother König of the 4th section."

Berlin has come to accept women in the uniformed police service. They are fully accepted as "friends and helpers."

Marianne Heuwagen

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 3 September 1988)

Continued from page 10

term has been used in photography since the middle of the last century.

In Antonioni's cult film the main character tries to solve a murder by blowing up a small section of a photograph. In his film this was a game with the powers of the imagination.

This extraordinary *Blow-up* exhibition, on the other hand, concerns a change in the awareness of form against a background of a flood of routine advertising pictures for the artists included in it.

New, advanced, unusual forms try to emerge in these photographically artistic creations against the stereotyped artistic consumer advertising with its unimaginative monotony."

Roland Gross

(Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 17 September 1988)

Continued from page 11

answer to the questions about India's future in Kali and her sickle, not in the theoreticians of revolutionary violence such as Marx and Mao.

In his book the picture of Calcutta is for long passages pallid, for it is shrouded by the problems he brought with him and his interests as a travelling writer.

The impression is not given here that Grass had unconditionally become involved in the disturbing realities of contemporary India.

He writes too much about his reading, about his problems with the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and *Der Spiegel*.

Too often he emerges as the famous author, who takes part in the production of one of his own plays and makes official visits to universities, schools, publishing houses and development aid projects, and even to a minister (whom he duly thought little of).

Indian reality is reflected more convincingly in the pages of illustrations than in the text of his journal. With spontaneous strokes Grass captures in pictures the monstrous reality of Calcutta.

The drawings with their expressive, impetuous power seem to be the direct reaction to powerful impressions.

The most important part of the book is the last 20 pages. Here he gives a poetic distillation of his Indian experiences in powerful, compact verse.

There is no more twee dialogue with Fontane, no sensitive comments about Thomas Mann. Here events, things heard, smelled and thought are described.

The text reflects horror and pity, but there are traces of self-doubt and there is room for criticism and irony.

Jürgen Jacobs

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 16 September 1988)

■ THE OLYMPICS

Tauberbischofsheim foils the whole world again

Parry: what does a former barber who gave army recruits pudding-bowl haircuts have to do with Olympic fencing history? Cut: because West Germans took the three medals in the women's foil event. And thrust: that has never been done before in women's competition. The former barber is Emil Beck. He trained the girls: Anja Fichtel, 20, Sabine Bau, 21, and Zita Funkenhauser, 25, who took respectively the gold, silver and bronze medals. The record of Beck, who is chief team trainer in Seoul, is remarkable. Competitors from his fencing school in a small town in Baden-Württemberg called Tauberbischofsheim, on the banks of the River Tauber, have won 48 Olympic and World Championship medals since 1973. This must make the town, which has a population of only 12,000, the most successful fencing centre in the world. Tauberbischofsheim people do not just go fencing. Some work at a factory which makes school furniture; others attend agriculture college classes; others make pre-fabricated houses; many work in the wine business. The town is renowned for some significant late-Gothic and baroque architecture. But Beck, 53, has put it on the map. Roland Eitel looks at the man behind the whip-lashing foils for the *Stuttgarter Zeitung*.

Medals and tears. From left Bau, Fichtel and Funkenhauser after their success. They also won team gold medals. (Photo: dpa)

Just as it should be in an orderly small town in Germany: as the champagne corks were popping 13,000 miles away in Seoul, a committee was being formed in Tauberbischofsheim (pop: 12,000) to arrange the welcome home.

Anja Fichtel, Sabine Bau and Zita Funkenhauser set one record by picking up respectively gold, silver and bronze medals in the individual women's foil, and the likelihood is that they will set another when they return.

In 1976, fencers from Tauberbischofsheim won both gold medals in the individual and team foil events in the Montreal Olympic Games and 40,000 thronged the streets to welcome them. That might be exceeded this time.

The town is still rubbing its eyes in slight disbelief at the turn of events: the club has done it again — even if the finishing order was a bit of a surprise. It was thought that Frau Funkenhauser (a team medal winner at Los Angeles in 1984) would reach the final, but she had an attack of nerves in the semi-final and was beaten by Frau Bau — who she had never before lost to in competition.

Meanwhile, Frau Fichtel disposed of Susana Janosi, the Hungarian who won the world title, and went on to beat Bau. Funkenhauser beat Janosi for third.

FC Tauberbischofsheim, with 800 members, has shown itself to be the most successful fencing club in the world. Elmar Stumpe, who is responsible for publicity at the affiliated national fencing centre, observed how his job had suddenly become hectic.

As the drama developed in Seoul, a ceasefire was called at the club and training centre premises and the fencers packed the canteen to watch on TV.

Only the mayor, Erwin Hollerbach, was out of town at the big moment of triumph. But as soon as he got back, he got into action. He announced that a reception committee was to be set up; and he said of trainer Emil Beck: "Now he now gets his reward for his great work."

Beck, 53, is at the top. It is true that in sport, success has many people behind it while failure is an orphan. But Beck is almost single-handedly responsible for the amazing Seoul treble. It is something of a Hollywood tale: he used to be a barber and earned his money by giving pudding-bowl haircuts to soldiers at a nearby army barracks.

He was only 17 when he saw a film featuring fencing — and was bitten. A year afterwards, in 1952, he started the fencing club TBB.

His methods are not entirely uncontroversial but they have always brought results. Even a sabre specialist from Bonn, Jürgen Nolte, who was opposed to Beck's methods, now concedes that the future of the sport at top-class level is in Tauberbischofsheim.

Beck has built this medal assembly line over 36 years. He even makes sure that the athletes get jobs and apprenticeships in the town so that there are no problems with income or social-security payments. Frau Fichtel, for example, works in the town's administration.

Among the pupils are 90 children, 60 of them who are full time.

Beck has used sport, politics and industry to develop the centre. The showpiece is the Waldhütte, an idyllic meeting place where the fencers often go to celebrate among themselves.

When politicians make their obligatory visit to the training centre, they are always invited to the Waldhütte for "a nice talk".

Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder, Education and Sports Minister in Baden-Württemberg, remembers his visit. The great success of the club was talked about and today, when Beck needs something, then he doesn't ring up "Herr Minister" but refers to "Gerd."

And when Chancellor Kohl turned up as national head of the Christian Democrat party, which Beck is a member of, then Beck farewelled him with a "Adieu, Helmut. Look after yourself." It is a place that the people who make decisions for the major firms in Baden-Württemberg also know. Beck has worked hard to involve them — because it pays off.

When his fencers appear on television, their T shirts carry clearly visible advertising. And they don't walk round with their training jackets zipped to the top. You can always see an inconspicuously conspicuous firm logo.

Firms don't pay the fencers. The money goes into a promotional account run by a *Förderverein*. It used to be Beck's practice that, when the club visited a foreign country, the head of a contributing firm was appointed to head the party.

Of the 1.5 million marks that came in for the Olympic Games effort, two thirds came through private contacts of Beck.

And the 40 fulltime and the 30 part-time workers at the training centre are paid through the fencing club.

So no-one should wonder why Emil Beck is driving a Mercedes with a Tauberbischofsheim number plate in Seoul.

When journalists are invited to the Waldhütte, they quickly become aware that there are conditions attached. One reporter wrote an article with mildly critical undertones. Shortly afterwards, he received a letter from Beck which said that it would be difficult for him (Beck) to maintain their relationship on the same basis as before.

The life of a fencer in Tauberbischofsheim is tough. Every evening after training, there is a round-robin competition in which fencers must achieve a certain number of victories before they go to the showers. Those who win well get an early shower and those who don't go for a bout of punitive training.

But the fencers in Seoul have shown that the system works; and also that the practice of making the women train with the men every day is effective.

When the three West German flags were raised in Seoul, it marked a pinnacle for Emil Beck. But he is not going to let it rest there.

*The man who had an apoplectic fit af*ter the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles will go on to new peaks.

And it is certain that he will spread his efforts beyond fencing: he mentioned something that was troubling him at these Olympics: "We have in West Germany 2,000 artificial running tracks. In East Germany, they have 10. And in spite of that, our track and field efforts are poor. To me that is incomprehensible."

So, it looks as if the next challenge for Beck will be to drag German athletics out of the trough.

Roland Eitel

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 23 September 1988)

Silvia settles for silver medal and a hug in air-rifle event

West Germany's first Seoul medal was a silver in the women's air rifle competition. It went to 23-year-old Silvia Sperber from the little Upper Bavarian centre of Penzing (pop: 3,500). The winner was Irina Chilova, a Soviet sports instructor.

Frau Sperber was first able to grasp the fact that she had won a medal when the team trainer, Walter Schumann, sprang over the barrier at the range and embraced her. Until that moment, she had stood wide-eyed and slightly sceptical, staring at the target in the distance.

She said she had fought until the bitter end. "I wanted that gold medal." Her nerve held. But this is not the first time she has demonstrated that she does have nerves of steel. A month ago she won the German free-pistol title.

In that discipline she was 11th in the 1984 Games in Los Angeles. That was a bitter disappointment for someone who had come third in the world championships and who had been a member of the world title-winning team.



Just a matter of holes in cardboard . . . Silvia Sperber. (Photo: AP)

But in Seoul, she put all that out of her head. This time, she shot as if she was the only person there, as if she was shooting only against herself; it was not a matter of looking victory in the face, just a case of quietly doing her own thing.

Later, she talked about her father, Hans, who although he is her trainer, did not come to Seoul. She explains that, after the disappointment of Los Angeles, it was he who rekindled her enthusiasm for shooting.

Frau Sperber is a 23-year-old office worker who passed her chamber of commerce examinations. She is employed by the army on their civilian staff.

She is 1.56 metres tall (5ft one and a half inches) and weighs 48 kilograms (7st 6lb). She is fond of company and gives the impression of being thoughtful and perhaps a little quiet.

She laughs often, and when she does, it makes even that medal seem a little pale.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 22 September 1988)